

TrestleBoard

Corinthian Lodge #38 F&AM



October 2020

Puyallup, Washington



Greetings Masonic Families!

WM Kyle "Coach" Foster

Just when you thought 2020 could not throw anymore curveballs...up steps Nolan Ryan to the mound!

Please be extra careful outdoors with the air quality, as this is real, and it truly does affect all ages of folks when doing activity outside! Also, prayers to the families that have struggled with all the tertiary effects of all the fires & smoke.

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Topic Education:

As a person directly affected on both ends of the educational spectrum, these are my thoughts after two weeks of a frustrating start to the school year, to say the least. I have been an educator & coach for the better part of 32 years, I have a senior in college and run several after-school related programs too. The concept of faith, hope & charity have never been more needed than today!

Now that school has started in a distance learning model, please remember that teachers did not want this, kids struggle to navigate this virtual learning and school districts were not ready to change the entire dichotomy of an educational model overnight. It comes with technological issues, access issues, screen time burnout, bandwidth issues; and simply expecting a systematic change to work flawlessly is like asking any system to change from a people-oriented business to a 100% robotic ran business overnight. I would ask the Corinthian family to see where they can help a child struggling with this new model of learning and pray for the return to normalcy.

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Greetings from The East

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Brick Fundraiser

As Washington slowly opens, please support your local small businesses, families, and charitable causes. At Corinthian, **the second order of bricks arrives 9/15 and I will install the same week**

As of now, we have a third order of 1 brick ready to go as soon as we get 4 more processed! Our goal was 45 bricks this year, and we are at 23 currently! Let's keep this going Masonic Families!

Is there a Mason, DeMolay, Rainbow, Eastern Star, etc. that would love their name in stone forever? Christmas, birthday, installation, or any other ideas too are welcomed!

If anyone is interested, please seek out the form attached to this newsletter.

Property Maintenance

The lodge is continually appreciative of anyone willing to help mow or pull some weeds around the building, and again it is greatly appreciated.

Contact WB Fred Docker or WB Joe Einertson for help with any building maintenance and cleaning of the property. Thank you to all the Corinthian 38 Masonic family members supporting Corinthian 38 during a time when it is greatly needed!

Zoom Info

September 17th Thursday we will do a Zoom meeting as a Masonic Family check-in. The meeting will start at 7:00 PM, and is open to all the Blue-Lodge members, heads of all appendant groups, etc.

Restrictions Continue

As of September 15th, there still should be no groups using Corinthian Lodge for any physical activities, other than the occasional picking up of paperwork from the secretary/treasurer or maintenance of the facility. The moment those restrictions are lifted, I will blast it out immediately on all our communication tools. We will take this on a month to month basis, as the MWGM has not lifted the restrictions yet.

I wish you all a safe & healthy month ahead as restrictions are hopefully lifted and look forward to seeing you all again in person!



**September Corinthian
Lodge Zoom Meeting for
all members and
Concordant Bodies
September 17, 2020 – Thursday
7:00 p.m. PDT**

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79474927448?pwd=TWt3eGdYQlF3RWRacGt5YVhzYmZLZz09>

Meeting ID: 794 7492 7448
Passcode: 1fVS6Q



Rhododendron Court #8 is part of the Order of the Amaranth. Corinthian Lodge has two Amaranth organizations that meet here.

In the Order's teachings, the members are emphatically reminded of their duties to God, to their country and to their fellow beings. They are urged to portray, by precept and example, their belief in the "Golden Rule" and by conforming to the virtues inherent in TRUTH, FAITH, WISDOM and CHARITY they can prove to others the goodness promulgated by the Order.

Amaranth is organized into Courts, under Grand Courts at the State level. The primary body is called the Supreme Council (which has some subordinate Courts directly under it, as well). Women members of the Order are addressed as "Honored Lady", while men are referred to as "Sir Knight".

The order's primary philanthropic project is the Amaranth Diabetes Foundation.

RHODODENDRON COURT #8

Members of Rhododendron Court are Alive and Kickin'. Everyone is getting quite tired of the isolation we are forced to endure. Our next meeting date, the second Tuesday of October will be **October 13th**. We are hoping to meet for fellowship, over dinner at Denny's on South Hill at 6:00 pm. Members, watch for invites delivered by your local postman.

The fundraiser for Diabetes, which we usually hold as a dinner/auction, Might be presented a little differently this year. **HL Camille Lowery** has a plan, hatching in the wings. More information in November, after we've announced it in the Amaranth Newsletter, due out the first week in October.

Some of the folks of our Court have obstacles to conquer and changes a comin' in the weeks ahead. Please keep Rhody Court members in your thoughts and prayers throughout the next little while. Thank You!

HL Ellen Sumner



Senior Warden Bill Lowery

The Senior Warden of a Masonic Lodge is the second in command within the Lodge Officers.

In the absence of the Worshipful Master, the Senior Warden assumes the Worshipful Master's duties. The Senior Warden of a Masonic Lodge sits in the West (symbolic of the setting sun) and assists the Worshipful Master in opening and closing the Lodge.

The Senior Warden is in charge of the Lodge when it is at labor. His position is similar to a Vice-President of any organization.

His Jewel is the Level...symbolizing that all Masons meet on the level, without regard to social, political or religious beliefs or status.

Message from the West

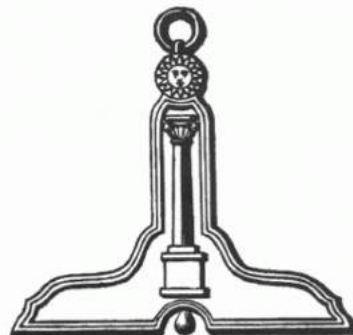
Bro. Bill Lowery

Good day Brethren. I am writing to you because it is getting to be that time of year again. As of this date nothing has been determined by Grand Lodge concerning how elections, scheduled for November will play out. But I am letting you all know that if it is the pleasure of the brothers; meaning IF you elect me I have every intention of assuming the seat in the EAST.

And of course while the Master is charged with overseeing the lodge, it is his officers and members who will help make a successful term. We have many members who have made it know that they are interested in assuming position, and It is appreciated but it will take an effort by ALL to continue the good work of Corinthian in our community.

I have a few new ideas that I hope to implement during 2021 and I would love to discuss them with each of you and hopefully enlist your help with them and of course continuing all of the great programs that have been started by Past Masters.

I am looking forward to your responses, thank you Bill Lowery SW





Fire Destroys Malden Lodge #188

Masonic Outreach Services Case Manager, Kim Deuser along with WB Curly Werner, and members of Malden and other Local Lodges.

We are shocked and saddened to learn of yesterday's tragic fire that devastated the Town of Malden, Washington and the surrounding area. We have learned that the Masonic Hall was destroyed and have heard that at least one Mason's home was burned to the ground.

Luckily, it does not appear there was any loss of life.

Our hearts and prayers go out to the members of the Malden Community and especially our Brother Masons of Malden No. 188 and our Sisters and Brothers of Malden Chapter No. 149, OES.

Washington Masonic Charities has set up a Masonic Fire Relief Fund to Assist people affected by the fire. An online donation link is live on the WAMC Facebook page and website under donate – Masonic Fire Relief Fund:

<https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=E228098&id=10>

Additionally, Washington Masonic Charities' staff in Spokane, Kennewick and the Main office have been asked to shift their focus to assist individuals who reach out for help. Washington Masonic Charities will do their best to address the needs, especially of our Masonic family, in that community.

News Update

In the first few days of the word going out, local Masons have raised \$50,000 to help fellow Masons in Malden.

Freemasonry in the News

[BBC News](#)

When and where did Freemasonry originate?

There is still a great deal of speculation about how the fraternal organization of Freemasonry originated. The earliest known texts relating to masonry date to 1390–1425, and state that the craft of masonry began with the Greek mathematician Euclid, in c300 BC [Egypt](#), arriving in England during the reign of King [Athelstan](#) in the 10th century.

[Live Science](#)

Freemasons: Behind the veil of secrecy

Freemasonry, known popularly for its white aprons and arcane symbols, is the world's oldest fraternal organization. Despite its longevity, Freemasons have long been shrouded in mystery.

[9 News Australia](#)

Masonic Symbols On Mothballed Planes Bring Out the Crazies It doesn't take much these days to send the conspiracy lovers into orbit.

A story appeared on the website of Australia's 9News TV station in Sydney on August 19th, reporting on financial losses for Qantas Airlines. Many international flights between the U.S. and Australia have been temporarily halted this year because of the international COVID shutdowns and restrictions. So at the beginning of the report, a half-second long shot showed a mothballed Qantas airliner being towed into storage at the Mojave Air and Space Port as part of a cost-cutting move by the airline.

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Freemasonry in the news...

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Hurricane Laura Wrecks Vinton, Louisiana Lodge

The brethren of Vinton Lodge 364 in Vinton, Louisiana report that their building was severely damaged by Hurricane Laura when the storm made landfall. Vinton is located about thirty miles northeast of Port Arthur, Texas, just north of the Gulf coast, and the town suffered major damage. The brethren of Vinton Lodge had recently completely updated and remodeled their lodge room, and all of that work has now been destroyed. Fortunately, they are not reporting any injuries or loss of life to their members or families.



The Economist

The freemasons want to be known for hand wash, not handshakes. (Subscription required)



The Insider

A nondescript New York City building hides a secretive Freemason meeting space, complete with fake windows and elaborate architecture. Take a look inside. There are six million Freemasons living in the world right now.

With a number that high, it should be easy to find out what exactly a Mason is and what they believe, but the organization has a reputation for keeping tight-lipped about what goes on behind closed doors.

Washington Post

Unlock the secrets of the Freemasons — or at least gawk at their strange costumes — in this Alexandria museum



Corinthian History Project

WORSHIPFUL BROTHER MILTON COLE LOVED HIS FRATERNITY

VWB John Adamson

Milt Cole was an outsized influence on Corinthian Lodge #38 and its modern history. He was a Past Master, force of nature and financial supporter of all things Masonic.

Past Master Milton A. Cole, known as “Milt”, was a man who loved his Masonry, loved his community of Puyallup, and most of all loved his family. Milt was a true “Puyallup-ite”. He was born in Puyallup in 1913, raised in Puyallup and spent his entire life in Puyallup. Milt grew up on 7th Street NW in Puyallup, was a graduate of Puyallup High School class of 1932 and after graduation attended the University of Washington. He operated a Shell gas station near the Post Office, where the Bank of America stands today, from 1942 to 1952.

Milt married his lady Joy in 1936.

After selling his gas station in 1952 he worked in the Civilian Personnel Office at McChord Air Base, now part of Joint Base Lewis McChord. He retired in 1972.

Milt was a lifelong Mason. He was a member of Corinthian Lodge, serving as Master in 1949. He was also a member of Tacoma Valley of Scottish Rite and of Affifi Shrine. Milt petitioned Corinthian Lodge in 1941 and was raised that year.

Milt was a strong supporter of the Corinthian Lodge Junior Achievement Fund, regularly donating to support this scholarship for Juniors from Puyallup’s high schools.

Milt and Joy had three boys. Tragically two passed away from childhood diseases and the third as a young adult. However, their nephew, **Rich Green** and his family became like sons and grandchildren. Rich fondly remembers Milt and Joy and the many years they had together. **Rich Green’s father, Harris Green**, was also a member of Corinthian Lodge.

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WB Milt Cole was Master of Corinthian Lodge from 1949-1950.



The Cole Family at their Puyallup-Area Home



Milt and Joy with family members.

Corinthian History Project

MILTON COLE LOVED HIS FRATERNITY (continued)

Milt and Joy moved to a home "far out" at the edge of Puyallup in the 1940s. Their home was on 14th Street SE, where Good Samaritan Hospital now stands. They lived there until the early 1970s. Milt loved to garden. He had a wonderful garden with grape vines, flowers and fruit trees. **WB Al Manning** grew up near WB Milt. **WB Al's father was Brother Frank Manning**, another member of Corinthian. **WB Al** remembers Milt always working in the garden making improvements as well as tending his flowers and fruit plants. He made many improvements to the garden, putting in a vineyard and a brick walking path through the garden. **WB Al** remembers it as a formal garden.

Milt's neighbors where Good Samaritan Hospital complex now stands included **Brother John Porter, Brother Frank Manning and his son, WB Al Manning, WB Chester "Chic" Hogan and his sons, Brothers Carl and Chuck** (who are also members of Corinthian Lodge – quite a family tree of members) , and many other names associated with Corinthian Lodge and Puyallup history. **WB Al** fondly remembers Milt and the neighborhood.

WB Milt and Joy later moved to Manorwood where they had a beautiful home and Milt continued to work on the yard building trilliums in the back yard.

After Milt retired he and Joy spent many years traveling in an RV in the United States and Canada. Milt was quite an accomplished photographer who took many pictures of their travels and hikes throughout North America. His photos filled 14 slide trays with pictures of their travels through all 48 states and Canada. Milt and Joy were also were "rock hounds".

Milt passed away in February, 2003. But, his impact on The Lodge and his community continues to be felt. He endowed the "Milt Cole Fund" for scholarship and improvements to his Lodge. This fund has provided many improvements to our Lodge building and, most importantly, continues to fund an annual Junior Achievement Scholarship to a Puyallup High School Junior.

*(History and research for this article provided by **Rich Green and WB Al Manning**. Photographs courtesy of **Rich Green**. Photo Editing by **Steve Heeb**. Principle writing by **VWB John Adamson**)*



*WB Milt was also a member of
Tacoma Valley of Scottish Rite and
of Affifi Shrine*



*WB Milt Cole was was called from
labor in February 2003*





During this pandemic, we are striving to have a member profile in each issue so other members can get to know one another during this time of quarantine. This month, we were scheduled to have a profile of **Bro. Mike Herald**. Brother Mike has been in Montana and is operating with a steam-powered computer. As a result, his profile will be published in the November, 2020 edition of the newsletter. We can all relate, Bro. Mike!

I'm also sure everyone at the Lodge would like to thank all the brothers who have helped **WB Lee Webb** move and I am sure **WB Lee** would also express his appreciation. Moving is one of the great stresses in life including changing jobs, loss of a job, divorce, major illness, injury or death. Death is a real bummer.

With all the craziness of 2020 still going on from COVID to brush fires to bad air to general chaos over what's next, Lodge meetings are still canceled for the foreseeable future. As a result, Lodge elections will not take place for now and the officer's line will remain in place until further notice pending decisions that will be made by the Grand Lodge of Washington. As a result, it's more important than ever that Lodge members reach out to check on everyone to make sure everyone's health and welfare are OK. Take advantage of some of the online Masonic education opportunities that are being offered both by our Grand Lodge as well as by national Masonic Groups that are listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

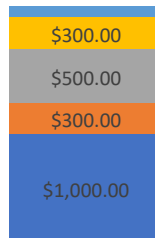
Many of you probably have questions about what we can expect in the coming months. First, we plan to continue this newsletter on a monthly basis until we can meet again to make sure we share information. Second, we are planning a new column in coming editions called "Q&A." Submit your questions and your Lodge Officers will address those questions that are addressable, knowing that how and when the lockdowns will end is really out of everyone's sphere of influence. Until that time, stay safe, take care of one another and wear a mask when out in public.



*Send your questions to
woo98371@gmail.com.*

Support Corinthian Lodge – Brick Fundraiser

\$4,500.00
\$4,000.00
\$3,500.00
\$3,000.00
\$2,500.00
\$2,000.00
\$1,500.00
\$1,000.00
\$500.00
\$-



■ April ■ May ■ June ■ July ■ August

Our Brick Fundraiser still has a way to go. Funds raised will go toward helping us improve the Lodge building and surrounding property. Our goal is to raise \$4,500.00

The bricks will become part of a brick garden at the base of the flagpole in front of the Lodge.

It will be a reminder of our connection to the local community and the power of Masonry in making this place we call home, a better place for everyone.

Sign up for your brick on the next page.



Corinthian Lodge No. 38

Your Legacy, Our Foundation



Memorial Flagpole & Brick Garden Project

Anyone else donating will have the same color brick as Master Masons, just no artwork:
Example; Puyallup Demolay --- Chapter 26 ---Est 1987

We would like to set up the 4 corners to the layout as 8"x12" pavers to represent the lodge name.

Example...Corinthian -- No. 38 -- Year EST. -- Square & Compass ...
One in each corner.

The row around the perimeter will be only for actual lodges.
Example: Corinthian No. 38 Puyallup WA EST. 1887 and these will all be in one color brick...and all have the regular square & Compass artwork

The next row inner to that will be all past masters.
Example, WB Kyle Foster -- "Coach" -- Raised 2014/WM 2020, and these will be all one color different from the lodge bricks and have the past masters square & compass on them.

The last color will be Master Masons with the regular square & compass as artwork.

Example Bro. Bob Smith -- titles held---date raised on 3rd line

The bricks will be \$100 each...

 <p>Corinthian No. 38 Puyallup, WA EST. 1887</p>	 <p>Lodge # City, State WM</p>	 <p>Bro. Bob Smith Date Raised Titles Held</p>
 <p>WB Kyle Foster Raised 2014/WM 2020 "Coach", KT. 32*</p>	 <p>4 x 8 Red Brick Lodges Only</p>	 <p>Puyallup Demolay Chapter 26 EST. 1987</p>
	 <p>4 x 8 Grey Brick Past Master Only Example: (KT. 32*, SR)</p>	 <p>4 x 8 Tan Brick Master Masons Only</p>
		 <p>4 x 8 Tan Brick Welcome Everyone but with no Logo</p>

Masonic Education

Morality & Freemasonry

W.Bro.Dr.K.Jyothindra

Kumar Worshipful Master (2007) of Lodge Ananthapadmanabha.(No.280), Grand Lodge of India. He is a member of Craft Lodges L.Aruvi No.293 and Kerala Master Lodge No.309 (GLI), Holy Royal Arch Chapter, Mark, RAM Conclave, Rose Croix, Allied Masonic Degrees, Cryptic Council-RSM and a member of Acacia Research Lodge, Chennai.

To the Masonic mind modeled by virtue and science, masonic teaching presents a great and useful challenge through out a Freemason's life - to contemplate and to act until his closing hour of existence on that perspicuous and uniquely human concept of "morality".

Life experiences and the myriad of symbols, rituals, and teachings of freemasonry which lie before a freemason leads him to contemplate and guide his reflections to the next most interesting of all human studies - morality.

Unlike its sister death, it is that mysterious veil which the eye of human reason can penetrate while yet alive and when assisted by that faculty called conscience, tempered by the secrets of our Masonic art, that every freemason is better the enabled, by constantly, pausing to listen to that subtle and sublime voice of Nature which quietly whispers in his ears, the right and wrong of every action and guiding him onward in the righteous path of life. Freemasons are humans and citizens first, and being of mature age, of their own free will and accord become freemasons next.

As such they can claim no high moral ground, monopoly or much less exclusivity on morality and the application of it in their everyday lives. Indeed there are many hundreds of thousands of people who live lives which could well be described as being "masonic" in nature, but were never formally initiated into its mysteries and privileges.

The difference then by analogy is that of the beauty of a wild flower in a dense forest to that of an equally beautiful flower in a nurtured city garden - the former we mostly may not, perchance see, while the latter and its beauty, some human is bound to see.

The effect of Masonic teachings on morality is like wise for the world to see. Chevalier de Ramsay in his famous "Oration to the initiate" stated that "sound morals" was a prime requisite of the Masonic Society in an initiate, "... in order to make them lovable men, good citizens, good subjects, inviolable in their promises, faithful adorers of God of love, lovers rather of virtue than of reward".

What is the foundation of morals?

These questions are often asked - What is morality? Why should I be "good"? Are there any absolute definitions of good and bad? By whom and under what authority? Is it at all possible to arrive at reasoned out and rational definitions of moral rights and wrongs? Why should I respect the elders and be kind to all? Why may I not lie, deceive and kill if that serves my purpose? In this era of rational and scientific thinking even moralists are not satisfied with scriptural injunctions or simplistic explanations.

To answer these complex and often confounding questions, as diligent masonic students, it is necessary to look at the very genesis and basis of morality.

The Masonic system of education teaches morality to its members in an unusual way, in its rituals, and in the course of degree work. This is defined in masonic ritual as a "peculiar system of morality" which has existed for several hundred years, remains and continues to be the central feature of Freemasonry today.

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Morality & Freemasonry

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The old Chinese adage states: "... a journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step" and so be it for our masonic study of morality. Morality is etymologically derived from the Latin word "moralitas" which means manner, character, or proper behavior.

The word morality refers to the concept of human action pertaining to matters of right and wrong. The latter may be loosely interpreted as "good" and "evil".

Thus morality speaks of a system of behavior with reference to right and wrong behavior. At the outset we have to distinguish the meanings of three words "moral", "immoral" and "amoral" which regularly surface in our study of morality. Immorality is flouting the conventions of one's own morality, while amoral is being without morality.

A novice student, should also beware, synonyms for morality which may be interchangeably used, but in fact are different i.e.; ethics, principles, virtue and goodness. Definitions beautifully describe the depth and scope of a subject for ease of comprehension.

The Catholic encyclopedia defines morality as: "Human conduct in so far as it is freely subordinated to the ideal of what is right and fitting". The American Heritage dictionary defines morality as the quality of being in accord with standards of right or good conduct. The systematic study of morality is a branch of philosophy called Ethics which is derived from the Greek word "ethos" meaning character.

Ethics is the systematic study of the nature of value concepts - good and bad, right and wrong, and of the general principles thereof.

In fact ethics has several branches and facets of study perhaps of direct relevance to freemasons in their quest of understanding morality so germane to our system.

Applied ethics addresses questions as to how a moral outcome can be achieved in a specific situation, while normative ethics addresses how moral values should be determined. Descriptive ethics describes the morals and thus morality to which people hold to, while the fundamental nature of ethics or morality is addressed in meta-ethics.

The crucial point to be reckoned is that morality is antecedent to ethics. It denotes the concrete activities of which ethics is the science. Morality is made up of ideals governing our free actions, is strikingly common to the human race. Though there is wide divergence as to the theories of ethics, there is a fundamental agreement among men regarding the general lines of conduct desirable in public and private life.

As Mr. Hobhouse has stated: "The comparative study of ethics which is apt in its earlier stages to impress the student with a bewildering sense of the diversity of moral judgments, ends rather by impressing them with a more fundamental and far-reaching uniformity. Through the greatest extent of time and space over which we have records, we find a recurrence of the common features of ordinary morality, which to my mind at least is not less impressive than the variations which also appear".

The language of primitive peoples contains words or phrases involving concepts or ideas, which can be translated as good and bad, right and wrong, true or false. Such phrases refer not only to correctness of statement, but also to a moral quality. In many respects, the rules of primitive morality accord fairly closely with those observed in a sophisticated and civilized society. treason.

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Morality & Freemasonry

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It can be safely stated that the common voice of the human race that has evolved with man proclaims morality as the adherence to truth, love, goodness, duty, peace and non-violence and that: .. it is right to be honest and just in one's dealings; love peace; to revere one's parents; care and provide for one's family; to show benevolence to fellow humans in time of distress; to bear pain and misfortune with fortitude and the like. .. it is wrong to kill a fellow human; to resort to mindless violence; to practice human bondage and slavery; indulge in felony and treason.

Maintaining morality demonstrates our recognition of the divinity in others and in ourselves.

While these facets of morality are the black and white squares of the masonic checkered floor, some others are in shades of grey and in between. Thus the advance of morality lies not so much in the discovery of new principles, but in the better application of those already well established and accepted, in the recognition and understanding of their true basis, and widening the scope and area within which they are held to bind and in the removal of corruptions inconsistent with their observance.

This is exactly what the Masonic system of education aims to achieve on the subject of morality.

As Ernest Hemingway observed in *Death in the Afternoon* - "what is moral is what you feel good after and what is immoral is what you feel bad after..."

Evolution of Morality

Moralists and Freemasons, would readily concur that moral concepts and rules are closely related to the structure and thinking of society and morality is therefore relative, in the sense that, as the ends of each society vary, so do the standards of right or wrong. Various defined actions over time come to be called moral or immoral.

Individuals who choose moral action are popularly held to possess "moral fiber", whereas those who indulge in immoral behavior may be labeled as socially degenerate. The evolution of morality is interesting, but needs a cautious approach.

Codified morality is to be distinguished from custom, which is another way for a community to define appropriate activity, by the former's derivation from natural or universal principles.

In certain religious communities, the Divine is said to provide these principles through revelation, sometimes in great detail. Such codes may be called laws, as in the Law of Moses, or community morality may be defined through commentary on the texts of revelation, as in Islamic law.

The first ethical laws, known to us from antiquity, are those of Hammurabi, Moses, and the Greek philosophers.

Examples of moral codes include the Golden Rule; the Noble Eightfold Path of Buddhism; the ancient Egyptian code of Ma'at ;the ten commandments of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam; the Yama's and niyama of the Hindu scriptures; and the principle of the Dessek. They deserve in depth study and are illusionary in the context of this complex subject.

The great Code of Hammurabi (18th Century BCE) is the most complete and perfect monument of Babylonian Law. The Code has provisions that regulate the laws concerning social classes, property, family, and criminal Law. The Decalogue, the Ten Commandments, delivered to the Jewish people by Moses (13th Century BCE) represent the Ethical Principles of the Jewish people, which were later accepted by the civilized world.

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Morality & Freemasonry

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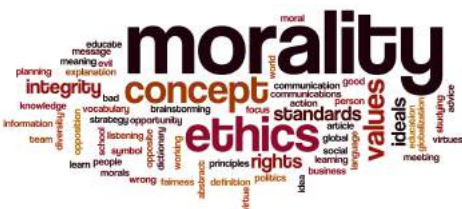
Basic to them is the interdependence of morality and religion. They forbid the deification of Nature, as well as the making of graven images, and enjoin the observance of a day of rest, to honor one's parents, respect for property, life and a woman's honor, and eschewing any deed or thought potentially inimical to one's fellow man.

The Decalogue can be regarded as the text of a Covenant between God and Israel. Moses' impact on the Jewish faith was to communicate a revelation of God as a redeeming Power, who makes exclusive ethical demands on man's will and at the same time, to build a community around that revelation.

The ethical speculations in Greece by Socrates, Plato and Aristotle are seminal to the evolution of moral concepts. To Plato must be credited in addition to reason and bodily desires, the existence of a third psychological element, called by him "spirit" (thynus). He related the psychological elements to the traditional four cardinal virtues so well known in the Masonic ritual.

Wisdom, is the virtue of the rational part of the soul, Courage, the subordination of "spirit" to reason. Temperance, the subordination of bodily desires to reason, and Justice, the harmonious development of the whole self.

The morality which Freemasonry inculcates from the mists of time, makes its demand for liberty of conscience, for the freedom of the intellect, and for the right of all men to be equal before God and the Law, each respecting the rights of his fellows. It has been asserted that it is not the quantity of life, but its quality, its depth, its purity, its fortitude, and its spiritual refinement.



Masonry insists upon the building of character and the practice of righteousness, upon moral culture and spiritual vision. He who achieves the highest degree of moral conduct, towards himself and towards others, in accordance with the philosophical and ethical ideas gains the respect and love of his fellow men and contributes to the formation of a society worth living in.

Morality, Religion and Freemasonry

The relation of morality to religion, and to Freemasonry which strenuously maintains that it is not a religion has been a subject of keen debate during the past century and indeed interesting. In much recently published ethical philosophy it is strenuously maintained that right moral action is altogether independent of religion and such is the teaching alike of the Evolutionary, Positivist, and Idealist schools.

In fact there is an active propaganda being carried on with a view to substitute this independent morality for morality based on the beliefs of Theism. This also takes us to the paradoxical questions - can and do atheists have morality? If they do, where do atheists get their morality from?

Masonic teaching on morality when viewed in this plane is brilliant - it only demands a belief in any God. Yet, it is not a religion and steers clear of any controversy on the requirement of religion to be moral ! yet, Freemasonry is intensely moral in its teachings!!

The Church and many of the World religions (excepting Buddhism, which explicitly teaches the entire independence of the moral code from any belief in God). have ever affirmed that the two i.e.; religion and morality are essentially connected, and that morality when divested from religion, the observance of the moral law or morality is impossible. This, indeed, follows as a necessary consequence from the Church's teaching as to the nature of morality.

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Morality & Freemasonry

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She admits that the moral law is knowable to reason: for the due regulation of our free actions, in which morality consists, is simply their right ordering with a view to the perfecting of our rational nature. But she insists that the law has its ultimate obligation in the will of the Creator by whom our nature was fashioned, and who imposes on us its right ordering as a duty; and that its ultimate sanction is the loss of God which its violation must entail

Further, among the duties which the moral law prescribes are some which are directly concerned with God Himself, and as such are of supreme importance.

Where morality is divorced from religion, it is true, reason will enable a man to recognize to a large extent the ideal to which his nature points.

But much will be wanting.

He will disregard some of his most essential duties. He will, further, be destitute of the strong motives for obedience to the law afforded by the sense of obligation to God and in the case of Freemasons to their great and solemn obligation, and the knowledge of the tremendous sanction attached to its neglect -- motives which experience has proved to be necessary as a safeguard against the influence of passions.

And, finally, his actions even if in accordance with the moral law, will be based not on the obligation imposed by the Divine will, but on considerations of human dignity and on the good of human society.

Such motives, however, cannot present themselves as, strictly speaking, obligatory.

But where the motive of obligation is wanting, acting lacks an element essential to true morality.

Hence, while it may be argued that atheists can and do have morality, but it is non-religious and perhaps amoral! Some atheists attribute their sense of morality, to empathy which is felt in magnitude and proportion to relationships with people, mostly to the close family, friends, ethnic group and lastly to fellow humans.

From a world view, atheistic morality does not come across as powerful or as purposeful as the masonic concept of the brotherhood of man, or the fatherhood of God. Interestingly the golden rule of atheists states " Do unto others as you would have them do unto you".

Mike Evilteuf, an ardent protagonist of atheistic morality states that it relies on "enlightened self interest" and the "principle of empathy".

Even an entered apprentice Free mason would readily recall that this is exactly what is taught in the Charge after initiation! So much for atheism and morality !

Indeed all roads lead to Rome !! The Church insists upon the doctrine of original sin; Masonic ritual does not imply as much in express terms though there are allegories; e.g. - " who having defined for our instruction the limits of good and evil will reward or punish as we have obeyed or disregarded his Divine Commands".

But, both do teach that in our present state there is a certain obscurity in reason's vision of the moral law, together with a morbid craving for independence impelling us to transgress it, and a lack of complete control over the passions; and that by reason of this inherited taint, man, unless supported by Divine aid, is unable to observe the moral law for any length of time; e.g. - "Let the want of light remind you that man by nature is a child of ignorance and error and would have ever remained in a state of darkness, had it not pleased the Almighty to call him to light and immortality"

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Morality & Freemasonry

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Newman has admirably described from the psychological point of view this weakness in our grasp of the moral law: "The sense of right and wrong . . . is so delicate, so fitful, so easily puzzled, obscured, perverted, so subtle in its argumentative methods, so impressionable by education, so biased by pride and passion, so unsteady in its course, that the struggle for existence amid the various exercises and triumphs of the human intellect, the sense is at once the highest of all teachers yet the least luminous" (Newman, "Letter to the Duke of Norfolk", in section on conscience).

The word religions are unanimous and unequivocal in stating the rejection of religious sanction is invariably followed by a moral decay, leading rapidly to the corruptions of the most degraded periods of our history. We may see this wherever the great revolt from religion, and which is so potent a factor today, has spread. The institution of family and family life is declining or disappearing being replaced by single mothers or parents, abortions which are on the rise; the number of divorces and of suicides multiplies annually; while one of the most ominous of all symptoms is the alarming increase of juvenile crime.

Mass cheating and public scandals fill the news paper pages, but the perpetrators and violators go scot free. They conclude, that for nations which have attained maturity, morality is essentially dependent on religious sanction, and that when this is rejected, morality will soon decay. Recent scientific evidence seems to give credence to this position. Research in criminology has acknowledged the inverse relation between religion and crime so beneficial to society.

A comprehensive meta analysis of sixty published studies on religion and crime concluded that "...religious behaviors and beliefs exert a moderate deterrent effect on individuals' criminal behavior" Masonic teaching on morality takes a different and positive route from religion in which the inducement of reward or the fear of punishment are not attached or proffered. It conduces good men to become better men by growth and development of morality in the individual and in the community.

Four principal areas of focus in Masonic teaching may be singled out as of primary moment, namely:

- (1) the value of education to become fit members of regularly organized society,
- (2) (2) as a citizen of the world to be exemplary in the discharge of one's civic duties
- (3) (3) As an individual to practice every domestic as well as public virtue
- (4) (4) As a Freemason to the excellences of character - secrecy, fidelity and obedience.

Law and Morality

Gandhiji often said that there is a moral law governing the Universe, but today few ever acknowledge it. Much of legislated law has a moral basis, with the good of society, in view.

Due obedience to the law of any State which may be your place of residence or afford you its protection is an important masonic tenet.

Law or justice is sanctioned through the power of the State and can be publicly enforced. Morality is regarded as a private matter where wrongs are only to the moral discredit of the person, but not such as to allow legal recourse for the wronged. It has been hotly debated whether decline of private morality ought to be legislated, in view of its impact on society and as Kant noted that the worth of moral action is in the intention

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Morality & Freemasonry

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It may be said with truth that the greater part of a nation's legislation affects its morality in some way or other.

This is manifestly the case with all laws connected with the family or with education; and with those, like the laws regarding drunken driving, or the restriction of pornographic and prurient literature, which have public safety and morals for their immediate object.

But it is also true of all legislation which deals with the circumstances of the lives of the people. Laws, for instance, determining the conditions of labor and protecting the poor from the hands of the usurer, promote morality, for they save men from that degradation and despair in which moral life is practically impossible. Slavery is a typical case in point, which was for a very long time perfectly legal, but morally the worst atrocity possible.

Crime and punishment and the related morality of it - whether harsh punishments will effectively serve their social purpose, any more than draconian punishments ever have, as in the argument against capital punishment. It is well accepted that the prospect of death has not reduced the number of murders and has not really deterred murderers !!

The masonic fiat - in every trespass against our rules - judge with candor, admonish with friendship and reprehend with mercy sounds humane and is perhaps a realistic solution for crime and punishment! The other side of the coin is equally interesting - the law may permit what honor forbids, reminding us of the statement of the French philosopher Jacques Saurin : " the law often permits what honor forbids; instead of asking 'is it legal', more people should be asking " is it moral or honorable'?".

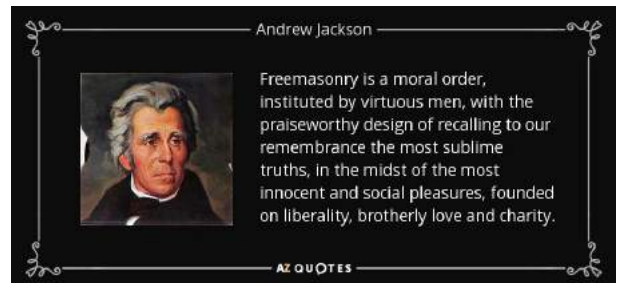
To think and act lawfully and morally, one ingredient has been stated to be necessary by our Seers, and Swami Sathya Sai Baba ever re-iterates it : Atma Dharma. In a word it is - "Thou shalt not do any thing that goes against thy True Nature which is that of the Eternal Atma" which can be readily observed by "Follow your Conscience for your Conscience is your Master".

Shakespeare said much the same thing in Hamlet : " This above all to thine own self be true; and it must follow as the night the day, thou canst not then be false to any man". Swami Sathya Sai Baba has given us a simple recipe: First there must be love for God. Then there must be fear of sin. If these two are guaranteed, then morality would automatically prevail in Society.

He further states "morality has to be grown in the heart by feeding it with love; then only can we have justice, security, law and order. If love declines among the people, nations will weaken and mankind will perish ". I wonder whether it is by design or sheer accident that masonic teaching strives for and follows the same path.

As Albert Einstein put it very succinctly : "The most important human endeavor is the striving for morality in our actions. Our inner balance and even our very existence depend on it. Only morality in our actions can give beauty and dignity to life."

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Morality & Freemasonry

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Person, Persona and the moral core

The moral core of an individual is the extent to which that person will apply his notions of morality. It is centered on the individual and can be extended to include other people or groups. The individual sees others within the moral core as deserving to be treated in the same way the individual personally wants to be treated.

The moral core is a principle that can determine how an individual applies particular moral values and beliefs. It is described in some theories of ethics as the limits to the rationality of ethics itself. From this perspective, morals are considered primarily aesthetic notions and not seen as directly shareable.

Persons who fall outside of an individual's moral core are not covered by that individual's notions of morality and do not enjoy its protections. From a masonic standpoint, our ritual and teachings aim to condition and strengthen the moral core of brethren as they face and vacillate between the moral choices of right and wrong in the hum drum of every day life in a society that puts "chaos theories" to shame !!

Sociobiology and Morality

Sociobiology explores the biological basis of all social behavior, including morality. Sociobiologists claim that there are no natural morals. Actions of animals with survival instincts are internally programmed with the sole aim of survival and proliferation. Even though human beings constitute an animal species with deeply ingrained instincts like those in other animals, they differ from other animals in having acquired a large neo-cortex, power of contemplation and communication and in having evolved a social set up where the principle of survival of the fittest no longer operates.

Animal instincts that human beings possess need to be curbed in order to sustain the society and social structure.

These curbs take the form of laws and morals. The example of incest, is a strong case in point, which is held to be immoral is also not favored by nature to avoid recessive genes coming to the fore. Morals are thus not only social survival instincts reflected in individuals but also a biologic imperative.

Spiritually evolved persons gradually give up worldly desires and do not need morals to regulate their lives. Yet, they are incapable of doing immoral deeds and their lives become embodiment of morals for common people.

Morality the life blood of Freemasonry

Morality runs like a golden thread through the dogma of Freemasonry from the Ancient Charges to the regulations and ordinances of the present day. No tenet of Freemasonry has been more consistently maintained and free from question.

In the very oldest document of the Craft, the Regius MS. (c.1390), the Articles for the Master prescribed that he should be steadfast, trusty and true; must accept no thief for an apprentice lest it turn the Craft to shame', must not supplant another Master but be a brother to him; must be fair and free and do nothing that would shame the Craft.

The Craftsman was charged to love God and Holy Church and his Master and Fellow's; work truly; be not false to the Craft; stand well in G-d's law; respect the chastity of his Master's wife and his fellow's wife and child; be a true mediator; act fairly to all; pay his debts; and swear to be no thief. Antiquity MS. (1686), as another example; it charges the Master to be a true man of God; to follow the golden Rule; not to take his fellow's wife in villainy or his servant or daughter; truly to pay for his meat; do no villainy whereby the Craft might be slandered; undertake no work that he is not able to finish; take only reasonable

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Morality & Freemasonry

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pay for work; be no common player at cards, dice, or hazard; not to go into town by night unaccompanied by a fellow to bear witness that he was in an honest place. Substantially the same was repeated in all the Gothic Constitutions.

Nowhere did Dr. James Anderson (c.1678 - 1739) catch the spirit of the Ancient Charges so accurately as on the subject of morality. In his Constitutions of 1723, he did not attempt to make the Fraternity sacrosanct or to paint it as pretending to a degree of morality that it had not attained but, with a commendable restraint, he prescribed only ordinary standards.

Masons were required to obey the moral law, to be good men and true, men of honor and honesty; to work honestly on working days that they might live creditably on holy days, to avoid ill language and behave courteously within and without the lodge, not to envy a brother or supplant him, to avoid excess and offensive language, not to continue together too late or remain long from home after lodge, and to avoid gluttony and drunkenness.

The Master was directed to take work as reasonably as possible and truly to disperse his employees' goods as though they were his own. Both the Masters and the Masons were advised to be faithful to employers and honestly finish the work.

The Wardens were to be true to both Masters and to Fellows and carefully oversee the work in the Masters absence. Thus as the square - a mundane working tool teaches us the great subject of morality, no further proof need be adduced that masonic teaching is the jewel in the crown of human morality !

What Morality means to me

Rational men are entitled to a opinion on morality, which may be proclaimed, or locked up in the safe and sacred repository of the heart, but what is important is that morality should suffuse every thought, word and deed, more so for Freemasons because it is their creed.

Having core beliefs, based on fundamentally sound assumptions, that engender human advancement is part of what I would call morality. Acting in harmony with basic moral principles without fear or in favor and over time makes one to live respected and die regretted.

To me, to maintain a moral stance in the face of corrupting and compromising influences is a high bench mark. Accepting others in their sincere beliefs, and ability to change when change is indicated, through rational thinking and attaining knowledge is consistent with morality.

Nonviolence and a love for peace and harmony, unity and brother hood, honesty and truth are certainly moral.

To forgive and forget is also a great gift of morality. After all a heart felt request to God for salvation makes every thing better and new; morality that was thought lost, is re-instated in a jiffy and one can start on a new slate !!

The biblical story of Mary Magdalene's pardon by Jesus Christ is a shining example of the morality of forgiveness.

The greatest insight that today's masons ought to have is the sense to discriminate between right and wrong, and to distinguish between the ideal and the practical; to act on that, what his conscience tells him is the best choice, and restoring Ordo ab Chao - order out of the mental and moral chaos amidst the crushing pressures and stresses of daily modern life. Such, my brother is the nature of the human concept of morality.

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Morality & Freemasonry

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Do right if you can; if questionable do not do it; and above all do no harm. No longer talk about the kind of man that a good man ought to be, but be such !!

So Mote it Be.



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A Hitchhiker's Guide to Masonic Exhibits Around the World You Can Visit Virtually



*Inside of the George Washington Masonic
Memorial*



The Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library

Any traveling man knows there's endless light to be found in the craft. By journeying across the jurisdiction to witness new degrees and connect with brethren from all over, Brothers continually find new meaning and significance in the teachings of Freemasonry. However, there is also much to be gained by exploring the past and current history of our fraternity at several Masonic institutions found across the globe.

Fortunately, today's technology has made many of our fraternity's finest monuments, exhibits, and artifacts accessible to all through virtual tours and programming. As you await your next chance to gather with brethren to witness a degree or travel to lands far from home to excite your Masonic pride, consider expanding your Masonic knowledge by "visiting" any one of these six virtual Masonic exhibits:

1. Take a Tour of the George Washington Masonic Memorial

One of the most sought after destinations for American Freemasons is the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia. Designed and built by Freemasons, the Memorial is home to a Masonic museum, research library, active Masonic temple, a performing arts center, and much more. While you'll have to wait to visit in-person to view everything the memorial has to offer, you can take a [virtual tour](#) of the building, including its lodges and museum online. As a bonus, you can get a true taste of what it's like to stand in the halls of the historic building by taking advantage of their immersive virtual reality offerings.

2. Explore Freemasonry's Ties to American History at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library Since 1975, the [Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library](#) (SRMML), one of our four charities, has been dedicated to telling the story of Freemasonry and fraternalism in the context of American history. Through its collection and preservation of fraternal artifacts and regalia, and its staff's deep study of American and Masonic history, the SRMML is home to hundreds of vintage items and educational exhibits for Masons to peruse at their leisure. Explore the history of Scottish Rite costumes, elections, portraits, and more by studying their [online exhibitions](#) and [collections](#) today.

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Masonic Exhibits Around the World

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3. Get Familiar with Masonic Artifacts at the Livingston Masonic Library Lodges and Grand Lodges from all over the world hold Masonic antiques to be admired; the Livingston Masonic Library of the Grand Lodge of New York just happens to [share its prized relics online](#) for Freemasons everywhere to examine. If you're interested in digging deeper into a specific area of Freemasonry, use their search function to find related items from their collection. If you're not sure where to start, use their "random images" feature to view an assortment of items from their collection and see what piques your interest.

4. Stop by the Home the Southern Jurisdiction Scottish Rite Masonic Museum

The Museum is closed to the public because of COVID, but you can view some of its grandeur online. Take a [virtual tour](#) of the historic headquarters and view the European and Egyptian-inspired architecture or view online collections to find documents and items belonging to Brothers of our fraternity's past.

5. Say "Bonjour" to French Freemasonry by Viewing the Online Collections of Musée de la Franc-maçonnerie

Established in 1889, the musée de la franc-maçonnerie is a public exhibition of the history of Freemasonry in France. Now, you need not travel to Paris to view the iconic works of French Brothers, such as the sword of venerable Brother Lafayette. [Click here](#) to view their online collection of portraits, objects, statues, and more.

6. Get to Know Your Prague Brethren and City from Home

[Praga Masonica](#) is the website our central European Brothers look to for Masonic inspiration, history, and connection. With no physical building to wander about, the site boasts a robust digital collection of literature and photos documenting Freemasonry's ties to Prague. Get to know how Brothers from across the pond (including infamous [Brother Wolfgang Mozart](#)) live our core values of relief, truth, and brotherly love by visiting the site. They even offer a [virtual "walking tour"](#) of the city, detailing where you can find Masonic institutions and history throughout Prague for those experiencing wanderlust.



You can view prized Masonic artifacts online at the Chancellor Robert R. Livingston Masonic Library.

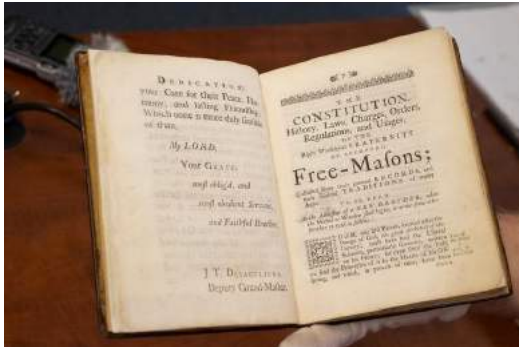


Stained glass artwork is just a sampling of some of the exhibits you can see at the Scottish Rite Museum.

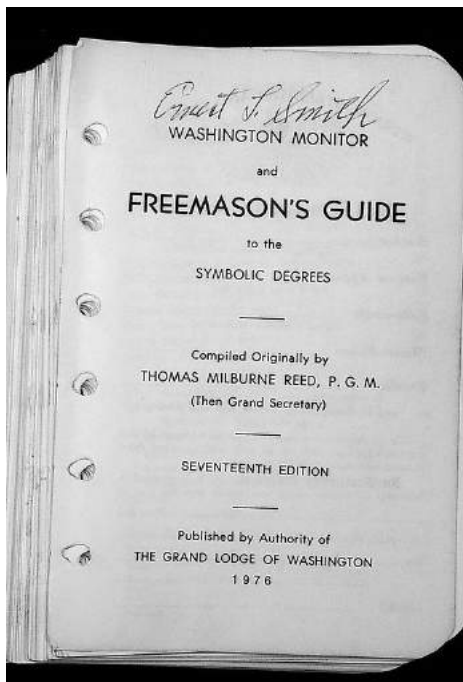


Installed at the headquarters of the Grand Orient, the Museum of Freemasonry unveils multiple objects, anecdotes and historical reminders on the influence of the Masonry in French society.

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This copy of “The Constitutions of the Free-Masons” was printed by Ben Franklin, a Freemason himself, and was used by Freemasons in the Colonies. It is one of 17 Franklin-printed copies known to exist.



A copy of the Grand Lodge of Washington's Freemason Guide & Monitor, Circa 1976

Masonic Exhibits Around the World

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7. Cedar Rapids Masonic Library. Explore hidden treasures of the Freemasons at [Cedar Rapids Masonic Library](#). In 1884 the first Masonic library building anywhere in the world was opened to the public in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The building was supposed to last one hundred years, but nobody predicted the impact a building would have on the collections which grew so quickly that the building housing them proved too small and crowded. Thus, in 1952, the old library was demolished and the current marble building opened on the same site in 1955.

8. Washington State Masonic Library & Museum. Although closed because of COVID, our Grand Lodge houses a fairly large collection at its University Place location. [Click here](#) to see some of the historic photos in the archive.

Freemasonry is one of the oldest fraternities in the world and the plethora of Masonic establishments worldwide is a testament to this fact. Now the only question is, which exhibit will you “visit” first?





Funny Stuff – We've got to have a good laugh

Divers off the coast of Italy have discovered a 2,000-year-old shipwreck that is so well-preserved, even the food is intact. The food was carefully extracted from the wreck and served at the nearest Olive Garden.

According to a new poll, atheism is becoming more and more popular among Americans. God only knows why.

Police in Florida have arrested a man who said he finally achieved his goal of shoplifting in all 50 states. You know what you call someone who steals from all 50 states? Congressman.

Researchers at the University of Minnesota say movie theater popcorn may cause memory loss. See, that explains why Hollywood keeps making the same movies over and over again.

A government survey has found that for the first time, 12 states have what they described as very high obesity rates. The survey was conducted by telephone. It just as easily could have been conducted by mirror.

It's a good thing people don't lie about their weight because otherwise we might be even fatter than we thought.

A man in Oregon walked away with minor injuries after he fell asleep in a dumpster and ended up in a trash compacter. It raises a lot of questions, and the answer to all of them is tequila.

The Mars rover Curiosity has sent back images of some odd things on the surface of Mars, and some people think they could be UFOs. Here's my question. If we're on the surface of Mars, aren't we the UFO?

According to a new study, eating egg yolks after the age of 40 is as bad for you as smoking. Let me tell you something. If you are stupid enough to eat a 40-year-old egg yolk, you get what you deserve.

-turn the page for more punishment

**I see people my age
out there climbing
mountains and zip
lining and here I am
feeling good about
myself because I
got my leg through
my underwear
without losing my
balance.**

Painted Barn Studio
Cindy Nelson



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The Garmin company is offering a new GPS device that has the voice of Yoda. Maybe it's just me but if I'm getting turn-by-turn directions, do I really want to hear them from someone that speaks backwards?

A new study says that swearing doesn't make you feel better, but you know who disagrees with that? Anyone that has ever stubbed their toe.

Scientists in Britain unveiled the world's first robot with emotions. That's just what we need — a Rumba that's too bummed out to vacuum.

In Portland, Oregon, a 7-year-old girl's lemonade stand was shut down by the police because she didn't get a \$120 business license. On the bright side, by closing her business, she's now eligible for a \$108,000 government bailout.

The world's steepest roller coaster opened in Japan. It goes 80 mph and flips upside down seven times. It's like carpooling with Mel Gibson.

Let me see if I understand soccer. A yellow card is a warning, a red card means you have to leave the game, and a green card means you can move to the United States.

A new study found that women have better memories than men. Also, listen to this. A new study found that women have better memories than men.

A new study says that having a cat makes you 40 percent less likely to die of a heart attack. Not that the cat would care one way or the other.

Football's back. Everyone is excited. John Madden was so excited, he ate an entire side of beef and ran through a brick wall. Then he found out about the kickoff.



How to tell you're an adult:

- you gain 30lbs overnight
- you'd rather sleep than go out
- everything hurts
- comfort comes before style
- you have a favorite spatula
- everything feels like a chore
- college students look like 12yr olds
- you're always annoyed



Anatomy of the Masonic Charge

A psychological and sociological look at Masonry's most valuable guide of conduct and its challenges for today's Mason

VWB John Lawson

Past Deputy of the Grand Master & Past Chaplain
The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Washington

As I begin this commentary of my personal views and insights on what is arguably the most valuable of our landmarks, the closing charge, let me first say thanks to each of you who have, of your own free will and accord, chosen to walk the masonic path to enlightenment and accept the clarion call of the fraternity by striving to become a better man.

One of the distinctions of our craft is that we do not solicit for members. When petitioners come to our door of their own volition seeking membership, we take great care to examine each man to determine a proper fit for the order and for the individual. In the end, no brother within our ranks is without a genuine desire of his own free will nor without due examination by our fraternity.

One of the most rewarding benefits of this strategy in membership scrutiny is that we insure that we attract and retain like-minded men of high standard who have a love for fraternity and although are of diverse worldviews in life, have equal respect for one another and a mutual desire for the same basic values. But having said that, we are all works in progress and are always in need of improvement, chipping away the rough edges of our previously unexamined lives in an attempt to make smooth our own "rough ashlar" in order to find that better man inside of each of us. Nothing is a better reminder of the attributes we strive for than the values set forth in the closing charge that ends our meetings.

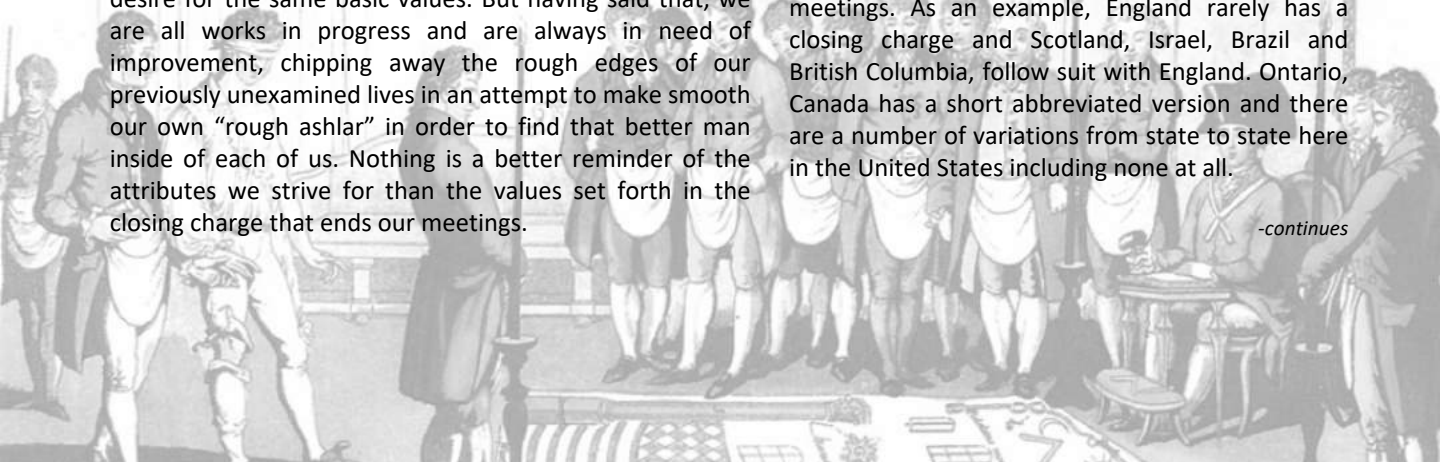
Not all masonic ritual is in cipher nor is it intended to be kept from the curious eyes of the world, and that is the case of our beloved charge. It is unapologetically what it implies, a list of final expectations and strong reminders of who we should be as masons and as men and how we should operate throughout our life both in and out of the lodge.

It reminds us of the responsibilities we have promised to ourselves, our brothers, the craft, and finally to all of mankind. The charge is simple in its construction and it is straightforward in its expectation, perhaps so much so that we might glaze over its deeper meaning and be tempted to rush through it on a long meeting night.

I will go so far as to say that our charge contains the distilled sum of our craft and so its tenets should not only put to memory by every mason, (officer or not), but understood as that good and wholesome instruction laid down by the master of the lodge specifically for our civility with one another and our example of genuine manhood to the world.

It may come as a surprise, but not every state nor country around the world present the closing charge to its brethren at the close of their meetings. As an example, England rarely has a closing charge and Scotland, Israel, Brazil and British Columbia, follow suit with England. Ontario, Canada has a short abbreviated version and there are a number of variations from state to state here in the United States including none at all.

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Masonic Closing Charge

*From the Washington Masonic Monitor,
Most Worshipful Grand Lodge
of Free and Accepted Masons of Washington*

Brethren: we are now about to quit this sacred retreat of friendship and virtue, to mingle again with the outer world. Amid its concerns and employments, forget not the duties you have heard so frequently inculcated and forcefully recommended in this Lodge. Be diligent, prudent, temperate, discreet. Remember that at this altar you have promised to befriend



and relieve every Brother who shall need your assistance. You have been enjoined to remind a Brother of his faults in the most friendly manner, endeavor to aid his reformation, and to defend his character. These generous principles extend further, for every human being has a claim upon your kind offices. Do good unto all. And finally my Brothers, be ye all of one mind; live in peace; and may the God of love and peace delight to dwell with and bless you.

Anatomy of the Masonic Charge

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The Grand Lodge of Washington upholds the practice of reciting the closing charge. It is typically presented around the altar by the Master of the Lodge just prior to the close. Occasionally it is given by the District Deputy or other lodge member when asked. I would like to take this opportunity to look closely with you, line by line, and explore the charge in detail, sharing thoughts you may or may not have considered through the filter of psychology and sociology. As you examine with me, you may find that you have not always given due thought to its necessity or appreciated why these reminders are so important especially in today's world and the lodges of today. So let's begin.

Click [here](#) for a copy of VWB John Lawson's reprint



The Cable Tow

Freemasonry has no dogma or theology. It offers no sacraments. It teaches that it is important for every man to have a religion of his own choice and to be faithful to it in thought and action. As a result, men of different religions meet in fellowship and brotherhood under the fatherhood of God. A good Mason is made even more faithful to the tenets of his faith by his membership in the Lodge.

The cable tow, is purely Masonic in its meaning and use and symbolizes the connection between man, God and our brotherhood.

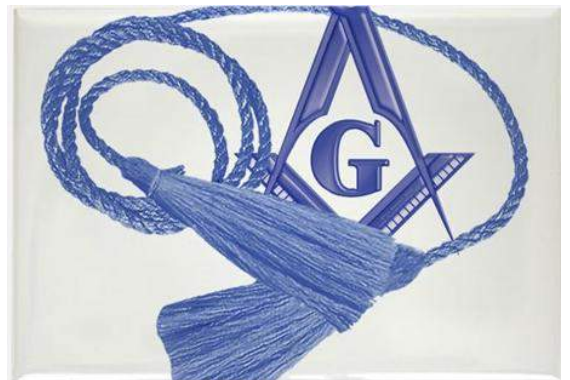
As far back as we can go in the history of initiation in several parts of the world, we find the cable tow, or something like it, used very much as it is used in a Masonic Lodge today.

No matter what the origin and form of the word may be, - whether from the Hebrew "Khabel," or the Dutch "cable," both meaning a rope - the fact is the same. If we were to take a good look at the Cable tow used in our Lodge we will notice that it is a three stranded rope (made of soft material, so as not to injure,) the three strands make it stronger for its use.

The cable consists of individual fibers, worked together to form strands. These strands are laid together to make up ropes and the ropes to form a cable. As separate entities, the fibers have little strength. However, when organized into a cable, as we have shown, their strength is immense.

So it is with Freemasonry. A Masonic Cable is made from individuals who form a Lodge.

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Cable Tow

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Lodges organize into Regions. Regions unite in a Grand Lodge. And as three ropes entwined produce the strong cable, so too does Virtue, Morality and Brotherly Love give strength to Masonry. Further, a cable gains its strength from three equal ropes, laid together.

Each rope is as important to the whole as the other. So it is with the three degrees of Freemasonry. As a strong cable is made of three ropes entwined, the strength of a Lodge comes from the Three Great Lights, the Three Lesser Lights, the three principal officers and the three pillars denoting Wisdom, Strength and Beauty.

We are first introduced to the cable tow as a restraint and control applied to the candidate prior to an obligation, however, that would only have been so in the 1°. Control, obedience, direction or guidance - these are the three meanings of the cable tow, as it is interpreted by the best insight of the Craft. It controls us, shapes us through its human touch and its moral nobility.

By the same method, by the same power it wins obedience and gives guidance and direction to our lives. At the Altar we take vows to follow and obey its high principles and ideals; and Masonic vows are not empty obligations - they are vows in which a man pledges his life and his sacred honor.

In speculative Masonry it is symbolic of our obligations and teaches restraint, self discipline, prudence, temperance, etc.

If a lodge is a symbol of the world, and initiation is our birth into the world of Masonry, the cable tow is not unlike the cord which unites a child to its mother at birth; and so it is usually interpreted. Just as the physical cord, when cut, is replaced by a tie of love and obligation between mother and child, so, in one of the most impressive moments of initiation, the cable tow is removed, because the brother, by his oath at the Altar of Obligation, is bound by a tie stronger than any physical cable.

The cable tow is the sign of the pledge of the life of a man. As in his oath he agrees symbolically to forfeit his life if his vow is violated, so, positively, he pledges his life to the service of the Craft. He agrees to go to the aid of a Brother, using all his power on his behalf, "if within the length of his cable tow," which means, if within the reach of his power. How strange that any one should fail to see symbolical meaning in the cable tow.

The old writers define the length of a cable tow, which they sometimes call a "cables length," variously. For each Mason the cable tow reaches as far as his moral principles go and his material conditions will allow. Of that distance each must be his own judge, and indeed each does pass judgment upon himself accordingly, by his own acts in aid of others.

The cable tow is part of the preparation of every Freemason in the world and in every ritual it carries a connotation of submission, of humility, of servitude.

The length of my cable tow can be regarded as a symbol of the binding covenant I have made. And part of this covenant is a pledge to assist others and in this respect, the length of my cable tow depends on my ability and willingness to fulfill my obligations and I must decide that length for myself. Measurement of service can never be subject to any externally imposed limitation for who else can decide the length of my spiritual ties? How long is my Cable tow? It's as long as I want it to be!

According to ancient laws of Freemasonry every brother must attend if he be within the length of his cable tow. Old writers define the length of a cable as three miles, others five to fifty miles. Three miles was generally recognized as a reasonable walking distance. The Master Mason promises to obey all signs and summons sent to him if with in the length of 'my cable tow'.

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Cable Tow

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When we take the full sentence the word 'My' in this phrase is very important. It is personal, it represents the individual. So the length of each of our cable-tows can vary according to each of our own personal commitments - sickness of self or family, work obligations, transport problems.

The compilers of our ritual were men who saw that it was only by attendance of our Lodge that we as Master Masons can be instructed in the spiritual and symbolical teaching of our Craft, a fuller realization of the Fatherhood of God and the universal Brotherhood of man, a greater understanding of the principles of Brotherly love, relief and truth.

By emulating the virtues displayed in the Five Points of Fellowship we will find that although our duties and obligations have increased, that which was once a tie has now no longer length or distance lost in the satisfying reward of love, peace and harmony in fraternal nearness and fellowship.

First, let's examine the physical cable tow. When we speak of the cable tow in terms of physical distance many of us make the error of assuming a reasonable distance and tend to judge others based upon our perception. As an example, let us assume that a Brother who lives less than a block from Lodge but does not attend and as a result some Brethren criticize him for not honoring his obligation as Lodge is obviously within the length of his cable tow. More over, before criticizing a Brother for not crossing the street to attend Lodge, we must recognize that our cable tow must be even shorter than his since we have not crossed the street to ascertain his condition.

Now, let us examine an even less understood area -- our mental cable tow. By mental cable tow, it is referring to the distance we will travel intellectually or philosophically to meet and accommodate another Brother.

It is this measure that will ultimately define our success in both Masonry and life as it is only by stretching our thinking beyond its normal limits that we learn, grow, and evolve.

Like our physical cable tow, our mental cable tow is greatly foreshortened by prejudice (pre-judgment), judgment, egotism, and other common traits that require the constant and consistent application of the working tools.

The Cable Tow as a symbol is very old, and its symbolism can be found in many initiations and in many religions throughout the world.

The Parsee wears a threefold cord wrapped and tied three times about his body, but not passing over the shoulder as the Twice Born (Hindus) wears it.

There are two theories about the meaning (symbolism) of the Parsee's threefold three times and tied about the body:

One is the first circle expresses a belief in one God, the second a belief in one Prophet (Zoroaster) and the third is that the world is round.

Another explanation of the three fold cord is Good Thought, Good Speech, and Good Work, in that order.

In the Hindu Samskaras the Upanayana was the most important Samskara of great significance since only after undergoing the Upanayana, the initiation ceremony, a boy is admitted into society. Initiation is mainly meant to enable a person, to acquire the means by which he can develop his inner personality to the full extent and to the right direction.

The Upanayana is the first step on this long journey towards the goal of self-realization. This sacred ceremony included the Yajnopavita - the Sacred Thread.

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Cable Tow

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The Yajnopavita hanging from the left shoulder and passing under the right arm, constantly reminds a man that he is a bonded for an indefinite period and that he can free himself of this bondage made up of three gunas by discharging his duties to his ancestors, to the Gurus, and ultimately to the Gods.

The yajnopavita consists of three cords and each cord is formed by twisting three threads into one. "A three times three symbolizing trinity (Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva) in unity in spiritual things:

The three strands represent three conquests over speech, mind, and the senses respectively:

The threads in the strands represent respectively three qualities; darkness (tamas), passion (rajas), goodness (sattva); three attributes: Perception, analogy, inference; and three objects: The knower, the known, and knowledge. In another form this thread when tied by a female to her brother or even sent to an unknown male binds that male to come to her help in time of her dire need.

Not only does the cable-tow bind the individual Mason to Freemasonry, it also binds Freemasonry to the individual Mason. The Fraternity is also under obligation for its members to guide, instruct and train them for the effective service of the Craft and of humanity.

Control, obedience, direction or guidance - these are the meanings of the cable-tow.

Of course, Freemasonry does not control its members by force. It controls us as beauty controls the artist: it does not drive us, it draws from us. Its morality and beauty shapes us: it shapes our senses, our passions, our decisions through its moral lessons and beautiful maxims. By this method it gains guidance of our lives and provides us with direction, a point in the distance to aim at.

As you reflect on the meaning of the cable-tow and apply it to govern your life and decisions remember that the bond between us and the Fraternity goes both ways, it is mutually inclusive. Also remember that the length of our cable-tow changes as our obligations, both within and outside of the Craft, require.



*A certificate may make you a member but
its turning up at lodge, your work with
your working tools, extending your cable
tow to all even when you disagree with
their opinion is what makes you a
freemason*

Let there be more light

Join Scottish Rite

What is Scottish Rite?

The Scottish Rite is one of the appendant bodies of Freemasonry that a Master Mason may join for further exposure to the principles of Freemasonry. It is also concordant, in that some of its degrees relate to the degrees of Symbolic (Craft) Freemasonry. In England and some other countries, while the Scottish Rite is not accorded official recognition by the Grand Lodge, only a recognized Freemason may join and there is no prohibition against his doing so. In the United States, however, the Scottish Rite is officially recognized by Grand Lodges as an extension of the degrees of Freemasonry. The Scottish Rite builds upon the ethical teachings and philosophy offered in the Craft (or Blue) Lodge, through dramatic presentation of the individual degrees.

Scottish Rite Degrees

The Degrees of the Scottish Rite are one-act plays often staged with costume, scenery, special effects, and the full rigging of any production. Their purpose is to examine different philosophies, ancient religions, and systems of ethics. Through all of these, people have tried to answer certain universal questions. The Degrees of the Rite do not tell a person what he should think about these questions. Instead, they tell him about what great thinkers and civilizations of the past have thought, and they try to create a situation in which the candidate or Brother can gain insight. Agreeing with Socrates that the unexamined life is not worth living, the Rite helps with this self-examination by providing reference points.

Why Join?

Your journey to Master Mason here at Corinthian Lodge is only the beginning of a spiritual adventure. What you learn here serves as a foundation for greater understanding, i.e., "more light." In many cases, what you learn in Scottish Rite will give you context for what you learn here. See **WB's Kyle Foster, Bill Cooper, Norman Ross, VWB's John Adamson, Brian Shields or Bro. Ken Woo** for membership information.



Masonic Education

The Point Within the Circle

“There is in every regular and well governed Lodge, a certain point within a circle, embordered by two parallel perpendicular lines. . . .”

Familiar to every Mason, this ancient symbol is too often considered merely as one of many, instead of what it really is, among the most illuminating of the entered Apprentice’s Degree.

It is particularly important not only for its antiquity, the many meanings which have been and may be read from it by the student, but because of the bond it makes between the old Operative Craft and the modern Speculative Masonry we know.

The origins of this symbol are unknown.

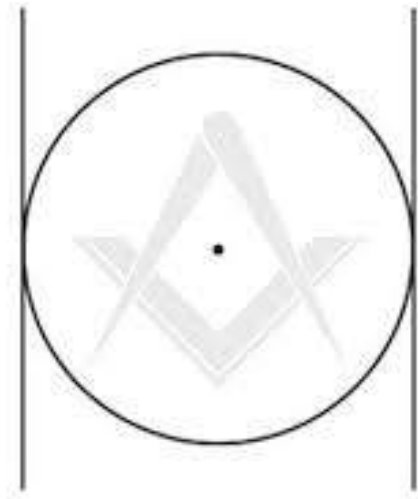
From the earliest dawn of history a simple closed figure has been man’s symbol for deity - the circle for some peoples, the triangle for others, and a circle or a triangle with a central point, for still others.

The closed figure, of course, represents the conception of Him Who has neither beginning or ending; the triangle adds to this the reading of a triune nature.

It is to be noted that the Lesser Lights form a triangle placed in our Lodges in that orientation which expresses Wisdom, Strength and Beauty.

Here at Corinthian, our Lodge closes with the brethren forming a circle about the Altar, which thus becomes the point, or focus of the Supreme Blessing upon the brethren.

Nor must we consider that a reading which is wholly beyond the monitorial explanation of the point within a circle is beyond Masonic conception.



As the point within a circle has had so many different meanings to so many different people, it is only to be expected that it have meanings for many Masons.

It can be connected with sun worship, the most ancient of religions; ruins of ancient temples devoted both to sun and fire worship are circular in form, with a central altar, or “point” which was the Holy of Holies.

The two lines on either side of the circle, for Freemasons represent [St. John the Baptist](#) on the left and [St. John the Evangelist](#) the right. Two prominent Saints in Freemasonry because of their connection with what is deemed the Mother lodge in Jerusalem. St. John Lodge of Jerusalem was first believed to be dedicated to St. John the Baptist first and then St. John the Evangelist. The Feast of St. John the Baptist falls on the Summer Solstice, the Feast of St. John the Evangelist falls on the Winter Solstice so the lines are also often said to represent the Summer and Winter Solstice.

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Point Within A Circle

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The two perpendicular parallel lines are sometimes thought to have been added to the symbol of the point within a circle as a sort of diagram or typification of a Lodge at its most solemn moment, the point being the brother at the Altar, the circle the Holy of Holies, and the two lines the brethren waiting to help bring the initiate to light.

The two lines against the circle with the point date back to early Egyptian monuments. They depicted the Alpha and Omega, or symbol of God, in the center of a circle embordered by two upright serpents, representing the Power and the Wisdom of the Creator.

Dr. Albert Mackey Mackey reads into the symbol an analogy to the Lodge by observing that as the Master and Wardens represent the sun in three positions in the Lodge, and as the Lodge is a symbol of the world (or universe) the circle can be considered as representing the Lodge, the point the sun at meridian, and the two lines, the Wardens or sun at rising and at setting.

This also seems to many students to be a mere coincidental reading. That derivation of the symbol which best satisfied the mind as to logic and appropriateness, students found in the operative craft.

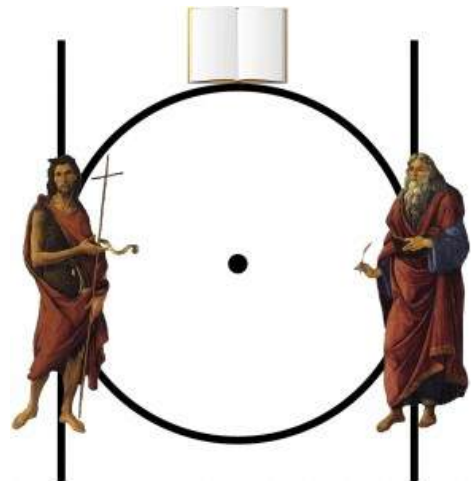
Fully to understand just how the point within a circle came into Speculative Masonry by way of Operative Craftsmanship, it is necessary to have some mental picture of the times in which the Craftsmen of the early middle ages lived and wrought.

The vast majority of them had no education, as we understand the word. They could neither read nor write - unimportant matters to most, first because there were no books to read, second because there was nothing which they needed to write! Skilled craftsmen they were, through long apprenticeship and careful teaching in the art of cutting and setting stone, but except for manual skill and cunning artifice founded on generations of experience, they were without learning.

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The Masonic symbol of The Point Within the Circle is depicted in some versions with the Volume of Sacred Law atop



The two lines on either side of the circle, for Freemasons represent [St. John the Baptist](#) on the left and [St. John the Evangelist](#) the right. Two prominent Saints in Freemasonry because of their connection with what is deemed the Mother lodge in Jerusalem. St. John Lodge of Jerusalem was first believed to be dedicated to St. John the Baptist first and then St. John the Evangelist. The Feast of St. John the Baptist falls on the Summer Solstice, the Feast of St. John the Evangelist falls on the Winter Solstice so the lines are also often said to represent the Summer and Winter Solstice.



The Point within the circle was part of the working tools of the ancient cathedral builders to ensure that these structures would stand the test of time.



Geometry was an important component of the ancient stone mason's tool chest.

Point Within the Circle

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This was not true of the leaders - or, as we would call them - the Masters. The great Cathedrals of Europe were not planned and overseen by ignorance.

There, indeed, knowledge was power, as it is now, and the architects, the overseer, the practical builders, those who laid out the designs and planned the cutting and the placing of the stones - these were learned in all that pertained to their craft.

Doubtless many of them had a knowledge of practical and perhaps of theoretical mathematics.

Certain parts of this theoretical knowledge became diffused from the Master Builders through the several grades of superintendents, architects, overseer and foreman in charge of any section of the work.

With hundreds if not thousands of men working on a great structure, some sort of organization must have been as essential then as now. And equally essential would be the overseeing of the tools.

Good work cannot be done with faulty instruments. A square and upright building cannot be erected with a faulty square, level or plumb!

The tools used by the cathedral builders must have been very much what ours are today; they had gavel, mallet, setting maul and hammer; they had chisel and trowel as we have. And of course, they had plumb, square, level and twenty-four inch gauge to "measure and lay out their work."

The square, the level and the plumb were made of wood - wood, cord, and weight for the plumb and level; wood alone for the square.

Wood wears when used against stone. Wood warps when exposed to water or damp air. The metal used to fasten the two arms of the square together would rust and perhaps bend or break. Naturally, the squares would not indefinitely stay square.

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Point within the Circle

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Squares had constantly to be checked for the right-angledness. Some standard had to be adopted by which a square could be compared, so that, when Operative Masons' squares were tried by it they would not "materially err."

The importance of the perfect right angle in the square by which stones were shaped can hardly be over estimated. Operative Masonry in the Cathedral building days was largely a matter of cut and try, of individual workmen, or careful craftsmanship.

Quality production, micrometer measurement, interchangeability of parts were words which had not yet been coined; ideas for which they stand had not even been invented.

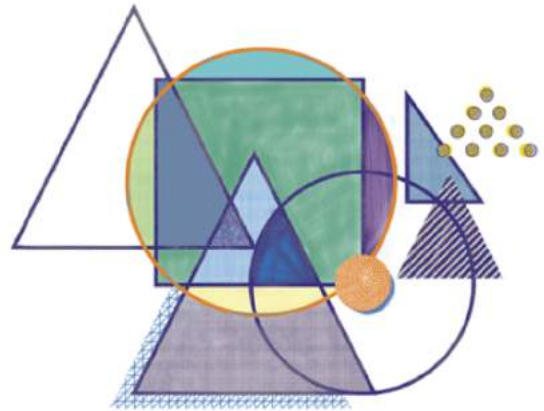
All the more necessary, then, that the foundation on which all the work was done should be as perfect as the Masters knew how to make it.

Cathedral builders erected their temples for all time - how well they built, a hundred glorious structures in the Old World testify. They built well because they knew how to check and try their squares!

Today any school boy knows the simple "secret of the square" which was then the closely guarded wisdom of the Masters alone; today any school boy can explain the steam engine which was a wonder two hundred years ago, and make and use a wireless which was a miracle scarce ten years gone by.

Let us not wonder that our ancient Operative brethren thought their secret of a square so valuable; let us rather wonder that in time in which the vast majority of men were ignorant of mathematics, so many must have known and appreciated this simple, this marvelous, geometrical secret.

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Geometry was used to erect longstanding cathedrals that exist today.



Point within the Circle

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Today we only have our Speculative meaning; we circumscribe our desires and our passions within the circle and the lines touching on the Holy Scriptures. For Speculative Masons who use squares only in the symbolic sense such an admonition is of far greater use than would be the secret of the square as was known to our ancient brethren.

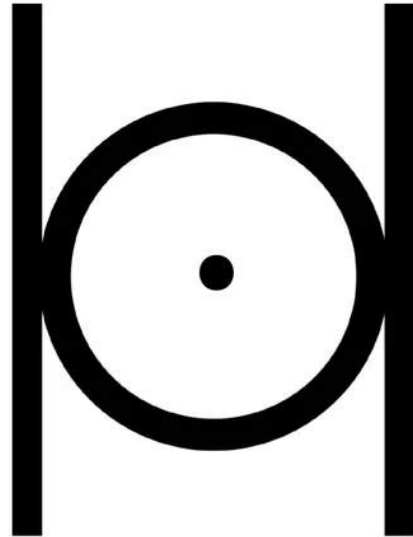
But - how much greater becomes the meaning of the symbol when we see it as a direct descent from an Operative practice!

Our ancient brethren used the point within a circle as a test for the rectitude of the tools by which they squared their work and built their temporal buildings. In the Speculative sense, we used it as a test for the rectitude of our intentions and our conduct, by which we square our actions with the square of virtue. They erected Cathedrals - we build the "House Not Made With Hands." Their point within a circle was Operative - our is Speculative!

But through the two - point in a circle on the ground by which an Operative Master secretly tested the square of his fellows - point within a circle as a symbol by which each of us may test, secretly, the square of his virtue by which he erects an Inner Temple to the Most High - both are Masonic, both are beautiful.

The one we know is far more lovely that it is a direct descendant of an Operative practice the use of which produced the good work, true work, square work of the Master Masons of the days that come not back.

Pass it not lightly. Regard it with the reverence it deserves, for surely it is one of the greatest teachings of Masonry, concealed within a symbol which is plain for any man to read, so be it he has Masonry in his heart.



Taking just the circle it is a reminder that we are all circumscribed with a circle in our lives and those who enter that circle, both in a literal sense (people we see) and figurative sense (people who our actions may have impact), have a claim on our kind offices. Our good will to our fellow man and our fellow mason is paramount to the moral ideals behind Freemasonry. It can also be said that the same circle is a dividing line between our internal passions and a mason's duty to God and his fellow man. A mason should never allow his internal passions, prejudices and selfish interests to pass outside the circle.



October Birthdays

John R. Adamson	10/8
William E. Mast	10/9
Ronald C. Price	10/11
John W. Westlund	10/15
Charles L. Janowski	10/25
Harold G. Johnson	10/27

October Membership Anniversaries

Charles H. McNabb (10)	October 2, 2000
Don M. Cottrell (61)	October 8, 1959
Charles L. Janowski (62)	October 9, 1958
Herbert G. Turner (17)	October 9, 2003
Donald E. Gilmore (58)	October 11, 1962
Harold G. Johnson (62)	October 23, 1958
Dennis R. Thayer (43)	October 26, 1977
Richard C. Crane (14)	October 26, 2006

Sickness & Distress

Sickness & Distress

Our hearts go out to **Warren and Judy Hartle**. Warren's sister **Waunita Preston** passed on September 5, 2020. **Waunita** made news 1937 because she and **Warren** were part of a triplet as reported in the local papers. Even today, triplets are a rare occurrence. Triplets are far less common than twins, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, accounting for only about 4300 sets in 3.9 million births, just a little more than 0.1%, or 1 in 1000. See article on left courtesy of the Tacoma Public Library.



Patricia Bush, a nurse at Tacoma General Hospital, holds William Henry Hartle, one of the triplets born to Mrs. William (Genevieve) Hartle on November 14, 1937. The first of the triplets, a girl later named Waunita (at right), was born at 11:23 PM and weighed 3 lb. 7 oz. She was followed by two boys, William Henry 4 lb. 7 oz. and Warren Edward (at left) 4 lb. 2 oz. The two smallest babies were kept in incubators, and William was in a cloth-covered bassinet. All three of the triplets survived.



Treasurer's Report

Bro. Ken Woo

We ended August 2020 cash flow negative at **-\$462.20** primarily from paying our D&O insurance. We had expenditures of \$652.20. YTD Income is \$10,976.63. YTD Expenses are \$9,267.66. Financial Delta is +\$1,708.97 July investment income is \$1,409.00 . YTD investment income is \$6,040.00

Past due accounts dropped to \$207.00 which are dues payments now 150+ days in arrears. If you haven't paid your dues, you will be dropped from membership.

2021 Dues Notices will be coming out shortly. We accept checks or cash to the Lodge Secretary. Credit Card charges will incur a service fee and should be directed to **WB Bill Cooper** or **Bro. Ken Woo**.



Lodge Finances as of August 31, 2020

Assets Under Administration - \$80,064.69

Aug P&L - **-\$462.20**

Aug Income - \$100.00

July Expenses - \$652.20

Major Expenses –Brick Fundraiser Expense and D&O insurance.

Six Month Outlook – Masonic activity shutdown could last the rest of 2020.

From the Desk of the Secretary

WB Fred Docker

This is going to be short as I'm preparing to go for my first surgery. The dues Statements will be going out soon. By the end of September.

The recent forest fires have been taking a deviating toll. Just recently the town of Malden has lost pretty much everything including the Masonic Lodge.

To make donations, please follow the link.
<http://weblink.donorperfect.com/masonicfirfund>

That is all for now.

My contact info Frederick L. Docker email fdocker@msn.com, Phone 253-332-5341



News from Grand Lodge

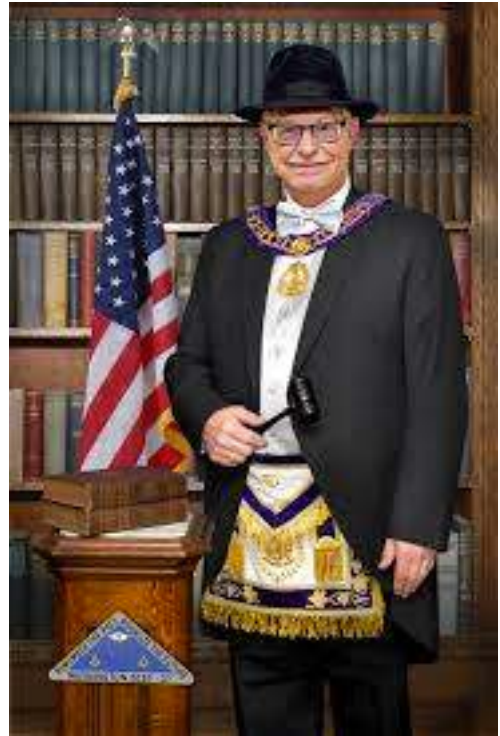
My Brothers,

As summer comes to an end, we are dealing with the rapidly changing reality of the COVID-19 pandemic. Your Executive Committee has been working on ways we can continue to work as Masons and Lodges. We have strongly recommended that Lodges, Districts, and others utilize virtual platforms like Zoom, Facebook live, and Go to Meeting to keep up with our Brothers, provide Masonic education, and discuss Lodge activities. While these solutions remain far from normal, they are steps in that direction.

So, what are we going to do with this unique opportunity? I suggest that we listen to some words of wisdom: For example, Sir J.R.R. Tolkien wrote in the Hobbit, "It does not do to leave a dragon out of your calculations, if you live near one." Similarly, R.:W.: Brother Benjamin Franklin is credited with saying: "By failing to plan, you are planning to fail." How about Eleanor Roosevelt's wise observation: "It takes as much energy to wish as it does to plan."

These thoughts are not anything new, Confucius is credited with "A man who does not plan long ahead will find trouble at his door." And more recently, the Dalai Lama said, "in order to carry a positive action, we must develop a positive vision." Lastly, I provide you with this thought, "Have a bias towards action – let's see something happen now. You can break that big plan into little steps and take the first step right away." Indira Gandhi.

Why do I lay these bits of wisdom on you? It is because most of our Lodges have failed to develop a Long-Range Plan. They have not considered the dragon in the neighborhood and how to prepare for the future with this in mind. That dragon may be an aging membership or financial difficulties. Maybe the Lodge is bringing in new Masons, but they are going out the backdoor and not returning. Each Lodge needs to figure out its purpose and vision and develop a plan to get there. Luckily, we have Brothers who know how to do this.



*MW Chris Coffman
Grand Lodge of Washington*

I have asked this year's Long-Range Planning Committee to assist Lodges in developing their own Long-Range Plans. Creating that positive vision, the Dalai Lama spoke of, directing the Lodge's energy in forward moving paths and breaking down the vision for your Lodge 5 or 10 years from now into little steps that can be accomplished this week, month, etc.

The Committee is there to help and very willing to do so, **all you have to do is ask.**

Remember the Past, Visualize the Future.



Grand Secretary Corner

RW Clint Brown

You can feel it in the morning. Fall is in the air. The mornings are a little colder and the days are getting shorter. Fall colors and football are right around the corner. This is my favorite time of year. The Fall season also brings with it several items which must be completed by the end of the year, even with the continuing pandemic.

Notice of Delinquency

First, the Washington Masonic Code requires:

"Section 17.14 B.L. Notice of Delinquents. It is the duty of the Secretary of each Lodge on or about September 1st of each year to notify in writing each member of said Lodge who has not paid his current dues. The notice shall inform the member that his dues are delinquent and that he will be dropped from the roll of membership if his dues are not paid on or before December 31st of that year."

I was shocked to learn how many Brothers who have been dropped by their Lodge for Non-Payment of Dues report that they were never contacted by their Lodge. Notices must be in writing and sent out on or about September 1. The Worshipful Master should appoint an N.P.D. committee in November who should interview each delinquent member (the interview does not have to be in person) to find out why they are delinquent and report that information back to the Lodge before the end of the year.

Also, as a reminder, if you are dropped N.P.D. in one Lodge, you are N.P.D. in all your Lodges unless you have a Life Membership. That means that as a Lodge Secretary, you should not reinstate a Brother into your Lodge until the Lodge that dropped him from the roles has reinstated him.

Monthly Closeouts

It is important that Lodge Secretaries log onto GrandView and complete their monthly closeouts even when the Lodge is not meeting. If there is no activity to report, then just click on the month, find the closeout button on the bottom of the page and click on it. It is as simple as that.

Dues Statements

Lodge Secretaries should be getting their dues statements ready to go out soon. Remember that dues are due on January 1 of each year. It is important that you send the notices out well in advance of this date. Remind member that their current due card is good through 2022. However, if they have lost or damaged their dues card, they can order a new one through the Grand Lodge office.

Even with the COVID-19 restrictions, Lodges must still perform these important tasks. Many of our Brothers may be experiencing financial and emotional hardships during this crisis. Please reach out to them and show extend to them some Brotherly Love.

Grand Secretary Forum

I will be conducting another Grand Secretary Forum via Zoom on Wednesday September 16, 2020 at 6:30 PM. You can find information regarding the Zoom meeting including the link on the GrandView website under the Seminars section of My Portal.

District Meetings

At least for the first part of the year, all District meetings will be conducted via Zoom. You can find the links for these meetings on GrandView under the Seminars section of My Portal. Everyone is welcome to join us!

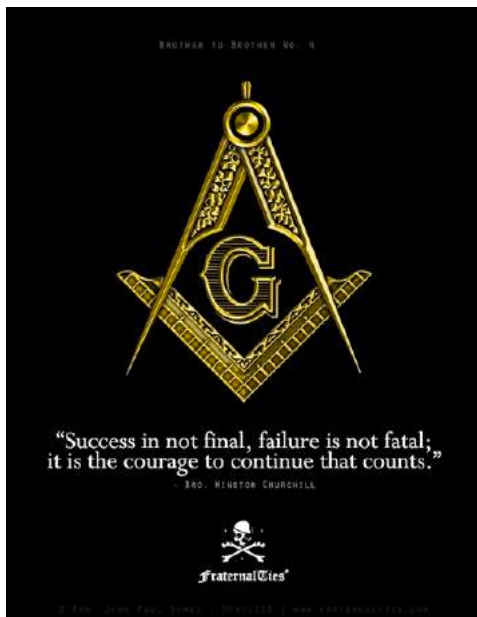
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Grand Secretary

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Secretary, Treasurer and Temple Board Training

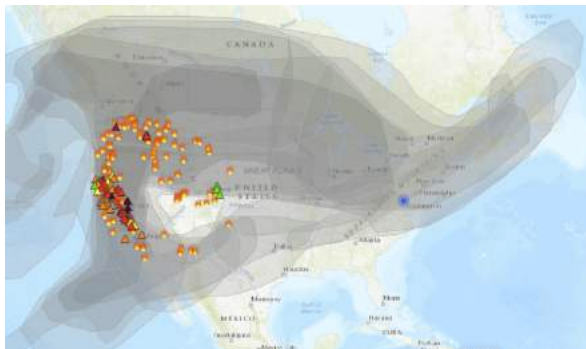
I am planning to continue conducting training this Fall. However, it will be over Zoom and I will be dividing it up into different sections. As soon as I can identify dates that do not conflict with the Grand Master's calendar, I will let everyone know when those trainings will occur.



Smoke from West Coast wildfires now blankets much of North America



The view from the East, West, South and North is Smoky. Even above as below, darn Smoky.



Help in our Troubled Times

Sometimes a Brother Needs a Hand



Bro. Ken Gibson

Executive Director

Washington Masonic Charities

www.wa-masoniccharities.org

(253) 442-2525

Masonic Outreach services assists our older Brethren and Widows to live dignified, meaningful lives, while also assuring that no Washington Mason or Masonic widow goes without their basic needs being met.

Our caring, compassionate case managers are skilled, professional and experienced. We work with individuals and families every day to address short term challenges, while also laying solid foundations that address long term needs. You can trust us to find solutions to fit your unique circumstances.

We are Here to Help

Call us toll free at (844) 288-3531

or send an email

to masonicrelief@masonscare.org

Mon - Thursday 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Fridays 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

If you know of a Brother or Masonic widow who can use help, please help connect them with us. If you need assistance for yourself or a loved-one, please reach out.

All assistance is confidential.



Washington Masonic Charities

PO Box 65830 University Place, WA 98464 253.442.2505
www.wa-masoniccharities.org

Has COVID-19 disrupted your family financially? A COVID-19 Relief Fund has been made possible by hundreds of Washington Masons who have contributed to help those who are less fortunate. If you or a Mason you know is struggling to meet their basic needs, *we can help.*

Are you worried about the safety and well-being of an older loved-one? We with families to assure that their older loved-ones lead a safe, dignified, meaningful life, while giving you peace of mind.

Are you concerned about your independence and ability to stay in your home? We will work with you to improve your independence and well-being, giving you support, and your family peace of mind.

Every day I am proud of our team and the great work they do helping our clients. Hearing the appreciative words of our clients and the positive feedback they provide tells me that we are making a big difference each day. I frequently hear that clients don't know what they would do without our help. If you are facing tough times or difficult decisions, know that you're not alone. We'll walk the path with you, just like we do with hundreds of individuals every year who reached out and trusted us.

Similar to when you approached a Lodge for the first time - when you knock, we'll answer. Reach out by giving us a call, or sending an email.

(844) 288-3531 toll free

[Byron Cregeur - Masonic Relief & COVID-19 Relief x110](#)

[Megan Johnson - Western Washington Case Manager x112](#)

[Kim Deuser - Spokane Area & Eastern WA Case Manager x114](#)

[Pam Hames - Mid-Columbia & Eastern WA Case Manager x116](#)



Monday Masonry Meet-Up

6pm Eastern, join us for an online meet up with fellow "Monday Masons" to chat about your favorite Masonic symbol. There are no right or wrong answers, just a fun chat about what a particular Masonic symbol means to you personally. [Click here to register for the meeting!](#)

Masonic Education

Brent Morris - **A Timeline of High Degree Masonry** is available for viewing online. Click [here](#) for the link.

VWB Jeremy Yielding **The Morgan Affair**. Click [here](#) for the link.

Masonic Coffee Klatch Zoom Link WED

Every Wednesday 10AM coffee Klatch invites you to join. Informal coffee break with fellow local Masons:

Meeting ID: **934 4134 0436** (the same every week, unless you are notified otherwise)

Password: **goodbooks** (the same every week, unless you are notified otherwise)

One tap mobile (*use this only if tapping once on your mobile device is your thing*)

+12532158782,,93441340436#,,,,0#,,198262# US (Tacoma)

+13462487799,,93441340436#,,,,0#,,198262# US (Houston)

Masonic Charities Virtual Seminars

Wednesday September 16 7:00 PM - [Click Here to Register for Free Webinar](#)

Provide & Protect – A Masons Guide to Important Life Decisions - Part A - Create and Accumulate

Masons commit to taking care of, themselves, their families, and doing their best to provide relief to distressed Masons and widows. This seminar is especially aimed at Masons who have not yet retired and are interested in learning more about the financial and legal preparation it takes to plan for the future well-being of themselves and their families.

Wednesday September 30, 2020 7:00 PM [Click Here to Register for Free Webinar](#)

Provide & Protect - Part B - Conserve and Distribute

Masons commit to taking care of, themselves, their families, and doing their best to provide relief to distressed Masons and widows. Part B focuses on considerations to prepare for your later years. This seminar is especially aimed at Masons who have not yet retired and are interested in learning more about the financial and legal preparation it takes to plan for the future well-being of themselves and their families.

Meeting Restrictions

Due to the current situation with COVID-19 and the dangers it presents, all Masons are still under an edict from the Grand Master to not hold official in person Masonic meetings. This includes restrictions on attending meeting of other masonic bodies where a Mason is required. The Executive Committee is working on a plan on how and when to get back to meeting in person. If you are in a county that is in at least Phase 2, there is nothing that prevents brothers from informally, no official meeting of any kind, getting together at their homes. It is extremely important to follow all current guidelines and maintain appropriate safety precautions. Informal meetings via Virtual Telecommunications (VTC) are encouraged. Although you cannot perform work from our standard work, you can do all the necessary business of keeping the lodge operational.

Grand Secretary Forum - September 16, 2020

Time: Sep 16, 2020 06:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85356235015?pwd=Mk1vRHNPWlZnaVpDWc8zblFDa0RkUT09>

Meeting ID: 853 5623 5015

Passcode: 260224

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,85356235015#,,,,,0#,,260224#

US (Tacoma)

+16699006833,,85356235015#,,,,,0#,,260224#

US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 853 5623 5015

Passcode: 260224

Find your local

number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85356235015>



Completed Seminars Available Online

[Lodge Accounting & Dues Notices](#)

October 01, 2019 02:00PM

Hosted by Grand View

[Member Portal and Mobile App](#)

October 08, 2019 02:00PM

Hosted by Grand View

[Introduction to Grand View *10:00 AM Central Time*](#)

January 09, 2020 10:00AM

Hosted by Grand View

[Introduction to Grand View *10:00 AM Central Time*](#)

February 04, 2020 10:00AM

Hosted by Grand View

[Hosting Seminars through Grand View \(for GL Officers and Staff\)](#)

March 23, 2020 10:00AM

Hosted by Grand View

[April 2020 Grand View Update](#)

March 27, 2020 10:00AM

Hosted by Grand View

-continues

Completed Seminars Available Online

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[Member Portal](#)

July 16, 2020 02:00PM

Hosted by Grand View

[Grand Secretary Forum](#)

August 04, 2020 07:00PM

Hosted by Grand Lodge

[Six Steps with the Senior Grand Warden Series](#)

September 01, 2020 06:30PM

Hosted by Grand Lodge

[Six Steps with the Senior Grand Warden Series - Part](#)

[II](#)

September 08, 2020 06:30PM

Hosted by Grand Lodge

District 19 Meeting

The Grand Master has moved the time for the District 19 meeting. The meeting will still be held on Saturday September 26, 2020, but the time has been moved to 3 PM. Please mark your calendars. The link to the meeting can be found on GrandView under Seminars.





MASONIC EDUCATION

VWB Jeremy Yielding

While we were unable to meet in person at the Lodge Leadership Retreat this year, the Leadership Training committee is committed to providing education and information. We would like to invite all Master Masons to participate in a series of virtual classes this fall, facilitated by members of the committee and officers of the elected Grand Line.

The classes will be presented on Zoom, with the links to the classes listed in Grandview (wa.gvsoftware.com) and navigate to the member portal and click on Seminars).

Each class will be listed in the seminar section at least two weeks in advance of the class. Simply click on Sign Up by the seminars you wish to attend and then you can go to the seminar page on the date and time of the Seminar and simply click "Join Seminar" which will provide you with the login information.

We selected the classes by surveying every Warden and Deacon listed in Grandview with an email address. We have selected the top six classes and ensured that there is no esoteric work that would not be suitable for presentation online.

Here's our tentative schedule:

Saturday, September 19 at 10:00 a.m. ***What They Don't Tell You About Being Worshipful Master***

There are issues and pitfalls no one ever tells you about when you become a Worshipful Master. We'll focus on the responsibilities of a Worshipful Master from several planned events during your year, installation, first meeting, District Deputy's official visit, balloting, Annual Communication and everything in between. There is a lot of detailed mandatory and non-mandatory things to make your Lodge function with peace and harmony during the year.

Wednesday, September 30 at 7:00 p.m. ***Leadership***

Introduction to leadership. Why are some leaders better and more effective than others? How do you develop interpersonal leadership skills, and create a healthy organizational culture within your Lodge?

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Masonic Education

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Saturday, October 17 at 10:00 a.m. **Ritual and Masonic Education .**

Ritual is an important aspect of Freemasonry. Not only can it inspire your candidate, it is an opportunity to develop your current Masons of your lodge. This presentation defines a successful degree night, shares best practices and explores ways to groom a new generation of ritualists for your lodge. Make the most out of degree night!

Wednesday, October 28 at 7 p.m. **Officer Protocol and Practices**

In this session, we will review Masonic protocol and practices as explained in the Lodge Officer's Handbook, including recommended roles and responsibilities. There will be plenty of opportunity to ask questions.

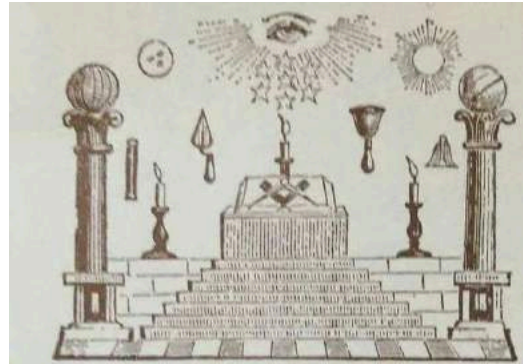
Saturday, November 21 at 10 a.m. **Lead and Motivate Masons.**

In this class you will learn to use your own vision as a powerful tool for gaining support of your leadership and motivating the men of your Lodge.

Wednesday, November 25 at 7 p.m. **Membership Retention**

For many lodges, attracting new members is important and yet so many lodges struggle to grow. This presentation approaches membership growth by examining the lodge experience and how this impacts retention and growth. Membership is now coming from men of four generations, each with a different perspective on life and expectation from their lodge. Is your lodge well positioned for growth?

We hope to see you at one or more of these classes. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me at vwbj Jeremy@gmail.com.



BE AN ACTIVE MEMBER

Be an active member,
The kind that would be missed;
Don't be just contented
That your name is on the list.
Do attend the meetings
And mingle with the crowd;
Don't stay at home
And crab both long and loud.
Don't leave the work for just a few
And gripe about the clique.
And take time out to visit
A member who is sick.
There is quite a program scheduled
That means success, if done,
And it can be accomplished
With the help of everyone.
So attend the meetings regularly
And help with hand and heart,
Be an active member
And take an active part.
Think this over, Member
Are we right or are we wrong?
Be an active member.
Please don't just belong.





The 1918 Influenza Pandemic, also known as the Spanish Flu, was one of the deadliest events in human history. While fighting between the Allied Powers and the Central Powers raged on in Europe, the disease knew no borders. Conservative estimates place the worldwide death toll at 30 million people, with reported cases in large cities and remote regions of the world alike.*Due to lack of records, estimates of the number of deaths attributed to the flu range anywhere from 30 to 100 million people.

The influenza outbreak locally started at Camp Lewis (now part of JBLM) and spread quickly across the state around March of 1918. Healthcare facilities were quickly overwhelmed including the Masonic Home, which was started by our Lodge a few years earlier. Ray C. Morse was the Worshipful Master of Corinthian Lodge during this time. MW George Lawler was Grand Master. The Masonic Home was located in an area now occupied by Good Smartian Hospital. Lodge records do not indicate any actions taken by members during this difficult period of history.

We can only imagine what may have occurred just as we can imagine efforts that are taking place today. Even then, there was a movement believing the outbreak was a hoax and objecting to social distancing and the wearing of masks. Records do not indicate if Lodge meetings were closed although large meetings were banned according to local newspaper accounts.

The quick action of government officials at least did something since Washington ranked at the bottom of the list of 30 states that reported massive flu outbreaks. Tacoma, for example, periodically closed all theaters, dance halls and banned public meetings in October and November.

Camp Lewis would close to civilians, in the hopes that limiting access would stop the flu from spreading. Tacoma and Puyallup, likewise, would ban public gatherings, public school classes, public funerals and concerts. Other cities around the state did likewise.

"The character of this disease is such that we are in the dark, to a large extent, as to a means to prevent its spread..." the Washington State Board of Health to the governor in its annual report, which was several months late since the board wanted to draft plans to handle the latest news of the emerging crisis. "We know of no way at present whereby we can detect a 'carrier' of influenza germs. In fact, we are in extreme doubt as to what germ is responsible for this disease."

By the time the report was written, the flu had claimed 4,879 lives. The prevailing medical opinion of the day was that the flu was caused by a bacteria that could be filtered from being inhaled through the use of cotton masks. These gauge masks actually did little to control the contagious nature of the flu, which is actually a virus that can easily pass through such protection.



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MW George Lawler was Grand Master during the Flu Outbreak of 1918. The Lodge does not have a photograph or other information regarding WM Ray Morse.



Schools were closed and public gatherings were banned as people were advised to cover the face with masks in an effort to prevent infection. Then, as now, many disregarded the order and paid for it with their lives.



*Initial cases were discovered at Camp Lewis
(Now part of JBLM)*



The outbreak claimed nearly 5,000 lives in the local area.

Spanish Flu

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The quick action of government officials at least did something since Washington ranked at the bottom of the list of 30 states that reported massive flu outbreaks.

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Camp Lewis and Tacoma were actually under a ban of public gatherings when news of the armistice sparked celebrations in the streets around the world. Some defied the order and attended last-minute parties, but many just stayed home in hopes they could avoid getting the flu from the revelers.

New Year's parties were back on, along with banquets and other holiday celebrations. A a looming concern was the upcoming legislative session in Olympia, where people from all over the state would be gathering, often in close press-the-flesh politician and lobbyist mode. A major feature was the Legislative Ball that kicked off the political and social season in the state Capitol. A series of other fancy balls often followed.

The Washington Standard newspaper lamented, "For the first time in the history of the territory and state there will be no formal reception and ball welcoming legislators." The paper hoped for the return of "gaiety" to Olympia's political and social doings.

The Olympia Chamber of Commerce was none too happy. The town claimed its influenza problems were not that bad. Still, the ball and reception were officially postponed. However, public gatherings were restricted; those who went to the theater could sit only in every other row, for example. People who sneezed or coughed in public were to be removed, and limited quarantines, designated with "Influenza" signs, were considered at homes or businesses where disease lurked.

The Thurston County Health Board, aided by other anti-shutdown politicians overturned many of the public restrictions.

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Spanish Flu

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With no vaccine to protect against influenza infection and no antibiotics to treat secondary bacterial infections that can be associated with influenza infections, control efforts worldwide were limited to non-pharmaceutical interventions such as isolation, quarantine, good personal hygiene, use of disinfectants, and limitations of public gatherings, which were applied unevenly.



The Masonic Home was founded by Corinthian Lodge in 1912 and was located on the property now occupied by Good Samaritan Hospital.



A giant America Flag was unfurled on Tacoma's Perkins building on Nov. 11, 1918 to celebrate the end of World War I. The crowd was small because of the ban on public assemblies caused by the influenza crisis.



The outbreak sent the local area into a panic. The Red Cross put out a call for volunteers and medical supplies to cope with the pandemic.

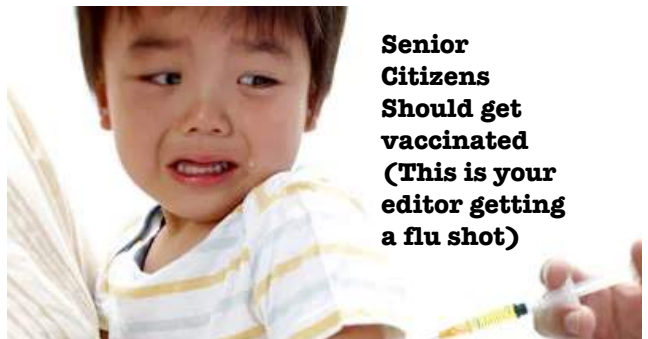
The Winter of Our Discontent

The average age of Masons is 68 years old and this puts people in this age bracket at greater risk than the rest of the population. Couple that with underlying health issues and it creates a volatile risk to Masons and the larger population. Doctors and other health care experts are concerned that COVID mixed with the regular seasonal flu might make for a larger public health emergency.

That's why doctors are encouraging seniors to get a flu shot sooner than later. For seniors, it's important they get the higher dose flu vaccine known as Fluzone High-Dose Quadrivalent. Fluzone High-Dose Quadrivalent is not recommended for persons with a history of severe allergic reaction to the vaccine or to ingredients other than eggs. Information about vaccine ingredients is available from your doctor or pharmacist.

The CDC reports Fluzone High-Dose Quadrivalent contains four times the antigen, the part of the vaccine that helps your body build up protection against flu viruses, then Fluzone Quadrivalent and other standard-dose inactivated flu vaccines.

Both are quadrivalent vaccines. The higher dose of antigen in the vaccine is intended to give older people a better immune response, and therefore, better protection against flu. In addition, health experts also recommend seniors get a pneumococcal vaccination to protect against pneumococcal disease, such as pneumonia, meningitis, and bloodstream infections. Talk to your health care provider to find out which pneumococcal vaccines are recommended for you. Click [here](#) for more information.



**Senior
Citizens
Should get
vaccinated
(This is your
editor getting
a flu shot)**

STAY HEALTHY TO BEAT COVID-19



**EAT A
HEALTHY DIET**



**AVOID
ALCOHOL**



**QUIT
TOBACCO**



**BE PHYSICALLY
ACTIVE**



**UN INTERAGENCY
TASK FORCE ON NCDs**



@un_ncd



COUNTY VARIANCE TRACKER

UPDATED: AUGUST 6



LEGEND



Modified Phase 1

In Phase 2

In Phase 3

Status Board As of Sept. 15, 2020

*All Lodges closed until further notice
All county reopening's stopped by order of the Governor
Please wear a mask in public spaces*

• COVID Cases in Washington state	80,138
• COVID Hospitalizations Statewide	7,098
• COVID Fatalities Statewide	2,006
• COVID Cases Pierce County	7,338
• COVID Hospitalizations County	782
• COVID Fatalities County	188
• COVID Cases Puyallup	436
• COVID Fatalities Puyallup	13

PHASE 2

WASHINGTON'S PHASED APPROACH

Modifying Physical Distancing Measures as we Reopen the State



HIGH-RISK POPULATIONS

Continue to Stay Home, Stay Healthy



RECREATION

Outdoor recreation involving 5 or fewer people outside your household (camping, beaches, etc.)



GATHERINGS (SOCIAL, SPIRITUAL)

Gather with no more than 5 people outside your household per week



TRAVEL

Essential travel and limited non-essential travel for Phase 1 & 2 permissible activities



BUSINESS / EMPLOYERS

- Remaining manufacturing
- Additional construction phases
- In-home/domestic services (nannies, housecleaning, etc.)
- Retail (in-store purchases allowed with restrictions)
- Real estate
- Professional services/office-based businesses (telework remains strongly encouraged)
- Hair and nail salons/barbers
- Pet Grooming
- Restaurants/taverns <50% capacity table size no larger than 5 (no bar-area seating)

Learn more at coronavirus.wa.gov



PHASE 3

WASHINGTON'S PHASED APPROACH

Modifying Physical Distancing Measures as we Reopen the State



HIGH-RISK POPULATIONS

Continue to Stay Home, Stay Healthy



RECREATION

- Outdoor group rec. sports activities (50 or fewer people)
- Recreational facilities at <50% capacity (gyms, public pools, etc.)
- Professional sports without audience participation (horseracing, baseball, etc.)



GATHERINGS (SOCIAL, SPIRITUAL)

Allow gatherings with no more than 50 people



TRAVEL

Resume non-essential travel



BUSINESS / EMPLOYERS

- Restaurants/taverns <75% capacity/table size no larger than 10
- Bar areas in restaurants/taverns at <25% capacity
- Movie theaters at <50% capacity
- Customer-facing government services (telework remains strongly encouraged)
- Libraries
- Museums
- All other business activities not yet listed except for nightclubs and events with greater than 50 people

Learn more at coronavirus.wa.gov



Corinthian Lodge #38 F&AM was founded in 1882 and has served the Puyallup Valley for 138 years. The Masonic Fraternity is the oldest Fraternity in the world. The Masonic Family includes Masons as well as organizations for women, couples, and youth. The Masonic Family provides more than \$2 million a day to charitable activities such as hospitals, youth scholarships, and those less fortunate than we. Masons are looking for men who wish to better themselves, who are interested in giving back to their community and in self-improvement.

Kyle "Coach" Foster – Worshipful Master
Bill Lowery – Senior Warden
Al Luberts, Jr. – Junior Warden
Fred Docker – General Secretary
Ken Woo – Treasurer
Joe Einertson – Senior Deacon
Richard Crane – Junior Deacon
Mike Herald – Senior Steward
George Sedlack – Marshal
Lee R. Webb – Chaplain
Norman Ross – Tyler

For story ideas, submissions and comments, please contact Bro. Ken Woo at woo98371@gmail.com. During this quarantine period, we are hoping to have a newsletter sent out every month. November newsletter deadline is October 15, 2020



The Square and Compasses is the single most identifiable symbol of Freemasonry. The square, to square our actions; The compasses, to circumscribe and keep us within bounds with all mankind. In many English speaking countries, the Square and Compasses are depicted with the letter "G" in the center. The letter has multiple meanings, representing different words depending on the context in which it is discussed. The most common is that the "G" stands for God. Another is that it stands for Geometry, and is to remind Masons that Geometry and Freemasonry are synonymous terms described as being the "noblest of sciences", and "the basis upon which the superstructure of Freemasonry and everything in existence in the entire universe is erected. In this context, it can also stand for Grand Architect of the Universe (a non-denominational reference to God).



In Freemasonry, the three graces are Faith, Hope and Charity

Corinthian Lodge #38 F&AM
1005 W. Pioneer
Puyallup, Washington 98371
www.freemasons-puyallup.org